

# PRACTICAL TRAINING

OF THE

# SHEPHERD DOG,

WITH

A FEW CHAPTERS ON DOGS IN GENERAL,  
AND THE COLLIE IN PARTICULAR,

ALSO

Suggestions to Stockmen for the Protection of their Flocks, Etc.

✓  
BY

**W. A. WICKHAM,**  
TIPTON, IOWA.



12  
8580a  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ILLUSTRATED.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Men are gods to dogs, and they serve their deities with a faithfulness that shames us.

— close beside him, in the snow,  
Poor Yarrow, partner of their woe,  
Crouches upon his master's breast,  
And licks his cheek to break his rest.

—Scott.



ROUGH-COATED SABLE AND WHITE COLLIE, CHAMPION "CHARLEMAGNE"  
(E.K.C.S.B. 10,691).

SF431

.W63.

---

COPYRIGHT, 1891,  
By W. A. WICKHAM.

---

E. G. H. 1891. 12.



To the stockmen of the United States, scattered far and wide over our grand prairies and majestic mountain-sides, from the mighty roaring Atlantic to the low-murmuring waters of the placid Pacific, from the storm-swept northern lakes to the sea-girt shores of the sunny South, this work is respectfully dedicated.





## PREFACE.

---

HAVING been a breeder of Collies for a number of years, and having numerous inquiries from patrons and friends for practical training instructions, which I could not supply on account of being unable to find a practical work on the subject, I have endeavored to supply a long-felt want by presenting the present work. I do so in the hope it may prove of service to those having the handling and training of Shepherd Dogs. I can assure my readers that if they will only take the trouble, and are possessed of patience and perseverance, and will faithfully carry out these instructions, they can not fail to be the happy possessor of a faithful and devoted servant and friend. In my remarks on dogs in general, I have endeavored to make it as interesting as the somewhat limited space would admit. I have quoted from the best ancient and modern writers and poets, and have also made extracts from the standard work of Youatt.

W. A. W.

TIPTON, IOWA, February, 1891.



# CONTENTS.

---

## CHAPTER I.

### OUR FRIEND, THE DOG.

History of the canine race—Our present breeds of dogs—The dog the only animal capable of disinterested affection—Scriptural allusion—The Egyptian's veneration for the dog—The dog as an animal of draught—The preserver of human life—How a gentleman was saved from drowning by a Newfoundland dog—The Newfoundland dog Bruno—Watch and the minister—The mastiff dog—A faithful watch-dog—The St. Bernards—The dog of Mary, Queen of Scots—Dogs of the French army—The poodle dog—The bloodhound—The Scotch staghound—The English deerhound—The St. Hubert breed—The foxhound—Dogs' usefulness to man—Ulysses and his dog Argus—The faithful Gelert—A pointer dog—The deacon and his setter dog—Courtney Langdon's love for dogs—Friendship existing between dogs—The faithful wolf-hound—Influence of climate on the form and character of the dog—The bulldog—The wild dog—The source from which the different breeds of dogs sprang..... 15



## CHAPTER II.

## THE SHEPHERD DOG.

Reputation of the shepherd dog—His aptitude for his duties  
 Description of the French shepherd dog—Origin of the old  
 English sheep-dog—Earliest work on the subject written in  
 the English language—The opinion of Youatt, Richardson  
 and Dr. Kerr on this breed of dogs—Size of the English sheep-  
 dog—Where he originated—Where he is most used at the  
 present time—Not suitable for a household pet—The Spanish  
 shepherd dog—Their use as defenders and watch-dogs—Their  
 faithfulness illustrated by an anecdote—The shepherd dog  
 Montague—Dogs used for bad purposes—The Mexican sheep-  
 dog—Serious injury to sheep from badly trained dogs—The  
 instinct, sagacity and fidelity of the shepherd dog—Buffon's  
 account of the sheep-dog—An interesting account of the shep-  
 herd's dog as given by Taplin in the *Sportsman's Cabinet*..... 43

## CHAPTER III.

## THE FASHIONABLE COLLIE.

Five distinct breeds of shepherd dogs—The Collie regarded as  
 the best—His place of nativity—His companions—Mongrel  
 Collies—The origin and history of the Collie—Dr. Alexander  
 Stewart's opinion—Fingal's dog Bran—Dogs deemed worthy  
 of notice in the olden time—The sagacity of the Collie—How  
 they are valued in their native country—The Ettrick shep-  
 herd's opinion of what a Collie can do—The shepherd Collin

and his dog—Collin's sorrow at the death of his dog—The value of a well-trained Collie—Their work in the wild moorlands of Scotland—Sir Walter Scott's description of the life of a Scotch shepherd—Mr. Hogg describes the difference between the Collie sheep-dog and the cottager's Collie—The bench-show Collie—Breeding for show alone has a deteriorating influence—Means whereby the Collie may be improved in appearance and still retain his working qualities—What the *English Kennel Gazette* says on the subject—The coat of the Collie of great importance—Color of the Collie—Original color of the Collie—In regard to crossing the Collie with the Gordon setter—Hunting dogs improved by being crossed with the Collie—The Collie a pure breed—Story of the Scotch shepherd on the hillside—The English champion Collie Rutland—Value of color in the Collie—Fashionable colors—White Collies—Collie presented to Queen Victoria—The Queen a lover of dogs—General appearance of the Collie—His motion or action—Cunningness of the Collie—Appearance of the Collie as found among the sheep of Scotland—His services indispensable—Collies in Australia—The Collie as a companion—The Collie on the range, in the city and in his native home—The most fashionable dog in England—The coming dog of America—Closing remarks—Burns' description of his dog Luath—Description of illustrations—Sensational prices—Champion Charlemagne—Champion Rutland—Champion Eclipse—Champion Peggie II. and other noted Collies—Their winnings, prices, etc. .... 53

## CHAPTER IV.

## TRAINING SHEPHERD DOGS—HOUSE OR YARD TRAINING.

Remarks on training—The shepherd dog—The first step in the direction of training—Advantage of selecting a young puppy—The collar and chain—Time and place suitable for training—To teach him to come in—The check cord—Instructing the pup to lie down—The term “Speak” How to teach this useful accomplishment—Rewards—A puppy’s knowledge of language—The whistle—How to teach him to obey the commands “Stop,” “Steady,” “Hie on”—The term “Over,” so necessary in the field, can be taught when the puppy is quite young; how to do it—Instruction in walking to heel—Difference of opinion in regard to early training—Concluding remarks on yard-training..... 71

## CHAPTER V.

## TRAINING SHEPHERD DOGS—PRACTICAL FIELD WORK.

Introductory remarks on field-training—Different modes of training—The disposition of the dog to be considered—An enforcement of prompt obedience—How to correct heedlessness in a young dog—Rules to be observed in training a dog—Qualities that should be possessed by the trainer—The dog’s behavior when under correction—One cause why so many dogs are made unfit for work—The term “Come in”—To teach the dog to drive—The command “Hie on”—Training to hand signals—To teach the word “Steady”—The use of

the check cord—At what time to train the dog in the higher branches of field work—Best position for the flock in order to expedite the training—To teach him to “speak” to them—to be quiet when bid—To train him to pass up the side of the flock—The term “Up, away up”—To bring the dog to the head of the flock, and pass around the other side—To “come in”—Rewards—The feat an experienced Collie will perform—To teach the dog to gather a scattered flock—The term “Around them”—To teach the dog the term “Back, away back”—To teach him to stay at any desired point alone—The term “Stop” or “Lie down”—To teach the dog to cross fence in order to go to the head of the flock—To train him to take the flock safely past gateways, openings in fences etc.—To teach him to “hold” the flock when necessary—“Hold front”—“Hold right”—“Hold left”—To teach the dog to drive alone while the shepherd goes to the head of the flock—To teach the dog to bring the sheep out of corners when they face the dog and refuse to budge—To teach him to bring the flock to you or fetch them home—The result of a want of uniformity in training terms—Difference of opinion in regard to training pups with an experienced dog—Our instructions sufficient without this aid, but the labor lessened if it is found convenient to call in the services of an expert dog—How to train the pup in connection with another dog—Rules to be observed when the dog is to be trained for work on both cattle and sheep—To teach him to fetch the cows from the pasture—To put them in different stalls—The shepherd dog should not be allowed to hunt—Teaching an old dog—Time required for training a dog—Causes of failure in training dogs successfully—How to inflict punishment when it is found necessary—Concluding remarks..... 79

## CHAPTER VI.

## COLLIE ANECDOTES.

Mr. James Hogg, the Ettrick shepherd, gives an interesting account of his dog Sirrah—Astonishment of Mr. Russell at the intelligence of a Collie he saw in Scotland—A faithful Collie who died at his post of duty rather than desert his charge—How a Collie drove a flock of sheep a distance of 175 miles without assistance and without losing a single sheep—How a Collie performed the duties which had previously employed two men—An interesting incident illustrating the memory of the dog—How a dishonest cattle-dealer was rebuked by a dog—A few instances in which the Collie has been useful in other ways besides the care of flocks and herds—How the mail was carried regularly a distance of nearly four miles over almost impassable mountains by the faithful Collie Dorsey—A Collie's intelligence and usefulness in a time of sickness—How a young man's life was saved by his favorite Collie—Wonderful tricks performed by Mr. Harris' Collie dog Boz—A Collie retriever—The Collie's antipathy to cats illustrated by an anecdote..... 91

## CHAPTER VII.

## A PLEA FOR THE DOG.

Good qualities of the dog—Canine pets—The dog one of man's best friends—The dog's duties—The terrier—Even the friendless cur not entirely worthless—The faithful watch-dog—Coxie on the dog's reasoning powers—Sir Walter Scott and his dogs—Man's just affection for the dog—Shakespeare's language to Desdemona; its relation to the dog—The society of dogs—Concluding plea..... 99

## CHAPTER VIII.

## SUGGESTIONS TO STOCKMEN.

The wolf problem—Hounds can be used to advantage by stockmen in the care of their flocks—They must be accustomed to the sheep when young—How a sheep-breeder uses them to advantage—The wolf's teeth too sharp for the shepherd dog—Hounds protect the flock from strange dogs—What kind of hounds to use—Sheep-bells a protection to the flock—A shepherd's experience in regard to bells—Cattle a protection to sheep from the ravages of dogs and wolves—The cunningness of the wolf—The result of keeping goats with sheep—The situation of a farmer who attempts to keep sheep without a shepherd dog—How to obtain a good dog—The Collie used more than any other breed of shepherd dogs—Raising dogs with sheep; how it is done—How to prevent dogs from killing sheep.....107





## CHAPTER I.

### OUR FRIEND THE DOG.

“ Let Hercules himself do what he may,  
The Cat will Mew, and Dog will have his Day.”

—*Hamlet*, Act v., Scene 1.

A faint, wailing cry, like that of a young child, breaks the stillness, which is only disturbed by the rustling of the leaves and the twittering of the birds, and the hunter, after one quick glance at the undergrowth at his feet, glances apprehensively in every direction to see if the mother is near to answer the call. And although the hunter takes the young panther cubs to his cabin, he always watches them for the first symptom of treachery, for he too well knows that they are indeed *feræ naturæ* (wild by nature), and can never be brought to look upon man as their master and friend. How different is the dog! Although abused from the time he takes his initial journey as a sleek, fat, good-natured puppy, until, as a lean, gaunt, hungry, ill-favored cur, he slinks behind his master's heels, he is always faithful in his allegiance, and devoted to his friendship.

The history of the canine race is as old as that of man, as far as we know. The oldest geological traces of the abode of man which have been discovered, also contain the bony reminders of his ever faithful companion, the dog. Wife, friends and loved ones may have deserted him, but the fare has never been so hard, the depravity never so great, as to cause this faithful friend to desert its master. We believe that the life history of the canine is coeval with that of the human race, so intimate are the relations between these two species of the animal kingdom. It is meet that this should be so, for do they not represent the highest phase of intellectual de-



velopment and mutual attachment of which we have any example between any two varieties of the mammalian animals?

With poetic license, a Vedic writer in the "Zend Avesta" said, thousands of years ago: "That through the intelligence of the dog the world existed." A German writer expresses the value of the dog thus: "A good falcon, a speedy horse, a noble dog, are more than twenty women worth."

While we can not express our love and admiration of the canine race in the extravagant language which usage allows the poet, still we venture to assert that notwithstanding the almost universal attachment which mankind feels for the dog, but few men know of the immense debt which the human owes the canine race. The firm believer in the biblical history of creation would be almost justified in asserting that, beyond all our domestic animals, the dog was made for man.

Dr. Billings says that "the affectionate devotion of our canine friends is one of the most wonderful of all their attributes, but still more so is the fact that it has not been won from them through punishment and fear, but is the result of the gradual development of trust and affection through centuries of contact. Hence we may assume that the wild progenitors of our present dogs were first conquered through kindness, and their confidence won by the display of sympathy on the part of man."

"May we not allow our minds to wander back to our primeval ancestors, living their simple lives in huts or caves, and with the mind's eye see some poor broken-down wolf or jackal finding its way into these human abodes, or picked up by some sympathetic person, its wounds dressed, its body nurtured, its shyness and fierceness, at first depressed by weakness, finally subdued by kindness, which rewarded its benefactor with the devotion of a life, thus teaching man the value of its species, and the lesson which has made the dog the friend of our sick-bed, the companion of the fireside and camp-fire, the watchful guardian of our race, whether found under Afric's scorching sun or on the frozen fields of the Northland? It matters not where man has wandered, could we with Indian instinct trace those tracks we should ever see the imprint of his faithful friend accompanying his own." That man ap-

preciated this attachment, in what to us is a very early period of our history, is most touchingly shown in Edwin Arnold's translation of the "Great Journey from the Mahal-harata," which for want of space we omit.

Pallas asserts that "the origin of the dog is to be sought in the taming and interbreeding of the various species of wolf in different lands."

Certain it is, the originals of any of our present dogs are buried in prehistoric darkness. There is no doubt that our present breeds of dogs have been obtained by some system of selection instituted by man, which was not altogether the result of accident.

The most ancient records which we have, such as the figures on the Egyptian pyramids, have representations of dogs that do not differ from those still living in that country in any remarkable degree, and so of Roman, Greek, Phœnician and other carvings.

Taking for granted the story related by Herodotus (verified by Le Plongeon, the archæological explorer), that the priests of Egypt told him of the migrations of the Egyptians from the East to the Nile country ten thousand years before their time, there is a vast period of mysterious silence that must be charged to man, but "dead men tell no tales," and the records of the earlier days of the human race are, with those of all of our other domestic animals, particularly of the dog, buried behind the veil of prehistoric darkness.

I must say that it appears to me an inexcusable neglect on the part of scientists and intelligent breeders of dogs, that notwithstanding the many dog books that have been written, notwithstanding the fact that several breeds have been established in what we may call modern times—*i. e.*, during the last two or three centuries—still we have no record of the crosses by which they were obtained.

Mr. Ballou says: "In tracing the origin of the dog and cat he has examined all the books and data back to Herodotus in vain. The animals soon got lost in obscurity, but students agree that the ancestors were once wild like man." Still it is as true, as if recorded, that the subjection of what we call the animal world to the human, bore direct relation to the tamableness of the different species,

and their adaptability to the developing intellect and increasing will power of the human.

Man has made the dog as we know him, as he has also made our other domestic animals from wild progenitors. The improvement in the breeds and characteristics of our domestic animals is in direct ratio to the intellectual ascent of the human race ; or, in more commonplace language, the history of the improvement in our domestic animals is the counterpart of the same thing in man. This is more strictly the case with regard to the dog than any other animal.

It is impossible to fix the epoch when the dog became the servant of man. The oldest traditions, the most ancient historical documents, show us the dog reduced to a state of domesticity. Thus it may be said that the dog forms an integral part of mankind. The dog possesses all the qualities of intelligence and spirit. Where can we find a more certain, more constant, or more devoted friendship, a more faithful memory, a stronger attachment, more sincere abnegation, a mind more loyal and frank? The dog does not know what ingratitude is. He does not abandon his benefactor in danger or adversity. With joy he offers to sacrifice his life for those who feed him. He pushes his devotion so far as to forget himself. He does not recall the corrections, the unkind treatment, to which he has been subjected ; he thirsts for caresses, while the indifference of those who are dear to him plunges him into deep distress. Noble creature ! the favorite of the rich, consolation of the poor, inseparable companion of the unfortunate ; thanks to thee, the miserable individual who dies alone in the midst of society counts at least one friend. And what intelligence ! what penetration ! what *finesse* is there in this admirable companion of our gladness and sorrow ! How well he can read countenances ; how skillfully he knows how to interpret the sentiments conveyed in gestures and words ! In vain you may threaten, in vain try to frighten him. Your eye betrays you ; that smile, which scarcely appears upon your lips, has unmasked your feelings ; and so far from fearing and avoiding you, he comes to solicit your attention.

“Next to the human being, the dog ranks highest in the scale of intelligence, and was evidently designed to be the companion of

man," says Youatt. We exact the services of other animals, and, the task being finished, we dismiss them to their accustomed food and rest; but several of the varieties of the dog follow us to our homes; they are connected with many of our pleasures and wants, and guard our sleeping hours.

The first animal of domestication, of which we have any account, was the sheep. "Abel was a keeper of sheep." It is difficult to believe that any long time would pass before the dog—who now, in every part of the world, is the companion of the shepherd and the director or guardian of the sheep—would be established in the service of man. In the process of time man began to surround himself with many servants from among the lower animals, but among them all he had only one friend—the dog—one animal whose services were voluntary, and who was susceptible of disinterested affection and gratitude.

In every country and in every time there has existed between man and the dog a connection different from that which is observed between him and any other animal. The ox and the sheep submit to our control, but their affections are principally, if not solely, confined to themselves. They submit to us, but they can rarely be said to love, or even to recognize us, except as connected with the supply of their wants.

The horse will share some of our pleasures. He enjoys the chase as much as does his rider, and when contending for victory on the course, he feels the full influence of emulation. Remembering the pleasures he has experienced with his master, or the supply of food from the groom, he often exhibits evident tokens of recognition; but they are founded on a selfish principle—he neighs that he may be fed, and his affections are easily transferred.

The dog is the only animal that is capable of disinterested affection. He is the only one that regards the human being as his companion, and follows him as his friend; the only one that seems to possess a natural desire to be useful to him. We take the bridle from the horse and turn him free into the pasture, and he testifies his joy at his partially recovered liberty.

We exact from the dog the services required of him, and he follows us. He solicits to be continued as our companion and our

friend. As from instinct, the dog abandons his own race and associates himself entirely with man as his best friend; and no cause, however great, is sufficient, in his estimation, to break asunder these voluntary ties or destroy this beloved connection. He asks a trifle for his proffered services: a kind word, an occasional smile, a fragment of our abundance, or a mere mite of our poverty, is all that he requires. The extremes of luxury or indigence are alike the same to him, so long as he is suffered to enjoy the companionship and kindness of his allotted master, let him be a prince or a beggar. For his master alone he leaps for joy when spoken to; on him alone he fondles when caressed, but for him alone he grieves when absent, exults at his return, and even in the sadness of his heart he pines away over his deserted grave.

“Dark green was that spot, ’mid the brown mountain heather,  
 Where the pilgrim of nature lay stretched in decay:  
 Like the corpse of an outcast, abandoned to weather,  
 Till the mountain winds wasted the tenantless clay;  
 Nor yet quite deserted, though lonely extended,  
 For, faithful in death, his mute favorite attended,  
 The much-loved remains of her master defended,  
 And chased the hill-fox and the raven away.  
 How long didst thou think that his silence was slumber?  
 When the wind waved his garments how oft didst thou start?  
 How many long days and long nights didst thou number  
 Ere he faded before thee, the friend of thy heart?”\*

Astonishment is sometimes expressed that in both the Old and New Testament the dog is spoken of with abhorrence. One great object in the institution of the Jewish ritual was to preserve the Israelites from the idolatry which prevailed among every people, although a few years after their escape from the Egyptians it appears they worshiped the golden calf, during the temporary absence of their leader.†

The Jews considered the dog an unclean beast, and wherever the Jewish religion spread, or its traditions are believed, this dis-

---

\*NOTE.—A young man lost his life by falling from one of the precipices of the Helvellyn Mountains. Three months afterwards his remains were discovered at the bottom of a ravine, and his faithful dog, almost a skeleton, still guarding them. Sir Walter Scott beautifully describes the scene as above.

†Exodus xxxii.



like of the dog continues to the present day. This accounts for the singular fact that even so useful an animal as the dog failed to be well spoken of by Jewish writers. In the whole of the Jewish history there is not a single allusion to hunting with dogs. Mention is made of nets and snares, but the dog seems to have been never used in the pursuit of game. Dr. Tristram, in his "Natural History of the Bible," says: "The Jews were not a hunting people."

Dogs were held in considerable veneration by the Egyptians. Figures of dogs appeared on the friezes of most of the temples,\* and they were regarded as emblems of the divine Being. Herodotus, speaking of the sanctity in which some animals were held by the Egyptians, says that the people of every family in which a dog died, shaved themselves—their expression of mourning—and he adds, "This was a custom existing in his own time."

The cause of this attachment to and veneration for the dog is, however, explained in a far more probable and pleasing way than many of the fables of ancient mythology. The prosperity of Lower Egypt, and almost the very subsistence of its inhabitants, depended on the annual overflowing of the Nile; and they looked for it with the utmost anxiety. Its approach was announced by the appearance of a certain star—Sirius. As soon as that star was seen above the horizon, they hastened to remove their flocks to the higher ground and abandoned the lower pastures to the fertilizing influence of the stream. They hailed it as their guard and protector, and, associating with its apparent watchfulness the well-known fidelity of the dog, they called it the "dog-star," and they worshiped it.

The dog soon came to be regarded as the god of the river, and the people represented this god with the body of a man and the head of a dog. This river god was also called Anubis, and its image was placed in all the temples of Egypt. Juvenal writes: "Whole cities worship the dog; not one, Diana." The dog was worshiped in all the towns of Egypt, and a city was built in his honor, and there the priests celebrated its festivals with great

---

\* In some of Belzoni's beautiful sketches of the frieze work of the old Egyptian temples, the dog appears, with his long ears and broad muzzle, not unlike the old Talbot hound.

pomp. Lucan says : " We have received into our Roman temples thine Isis and divinities half dog." The Egyptian dog was deemed worthy of special embalment and honorable sepulture followed by processions of white-robed priests, with their images of dog-headed gods and singing of the choirs of Isis, from the temple gates to the catacombs under the rocks. The popularity of the dog traveled rapidly westward, and the worship of the dog god was soon intermingled with the religious rites and ceremonies of other nations. The fire-worshippers of Persia paid divine honors to the dog, and he is still held in deep veneration by the modern Parsees.

The first hint of the employment of the dog in the pursuit of other animals is given by Oppian in his *Cynegeticus*, who attributes it to Pollux, about two hundred years after the promulgation of the Levitical law.

Among the savage dogs of ancient times were the Hyrcanian, said, on account of their extreme ferocity, to have been crossed with the tiger; the Locrian, chiefly employed in hunting the boar; the Pannonian, used in war as well as in the chase, and by whom the first charge on the enemy was always made; and the Molossian, of Epirus, likewise trained to war as well as to the honors of the amphitheatre and the dangers of the chase. This last breed had one redeeming quality—an inviolable attachment to their owners. This attachment was reciprocal; for it is said that the Molossi used to weep over their faithful quadruped companions slain in war.

Of all the dogs of the ancients, those bred on the continent of Epirus were the most esteemed, and more particularly those from a southern district called Molossia, from which they received their name. These animals are described as being of enormous size, great courage and powerful make. The Molossian dogs were at a later period much esteemed by the Romans as watch-dogs, not only of their dwellings, but also to guard their flocks against the incursions of wild animals. Ælian relates that one of them, and his owner, so much distinguished themselves at the battle of Marathon, that the effigy of the dog was placed on the same tablet with that of his master.

Soon after Britain was discovered, a variety of this class, but as large and as ferocious, was employed to guard the sheep and cattle,

or to watch at the door of the house, or to follow the owner on any excursion of business or pleasure.

As an animal of draught the dog is highly useful in some countries. What would become of the inhabitants of the northern regions, if the dog were not harnessed to the sledge, and the Laplander, and the Greenlander, and the Kamtschatkan drawn, and not unfrequently at the rate of nearly a hundred miles a day, over the snowy wastes? In Newfoundland, the timber, one of the most important articles of commerce, is drawn to the water-side by the docile but ill-used dog.

If people would treat their dogs as kindly as the Dutch and Belgians do, we should have no need to brand as cruel and brutal the custom of putting dogs in harness. From the earliest known history the dog was the protector of the habitation of the human being. At the feet of the *lares*, those household deities who were supposed to protect the abode of men, the figure of a barking dog was often placed. In every age and almost in every part of the globe, he has played a principal part in the labors, the dangers and the pleasures of the chase.

In another and very important particular—as the preserver of human life—the history of the dog will be most interesting. We recall several instances of rescue from drowning by Newfoundlands; of defense against highwaymen by mastiffs; of travelers dragged by the noble St. Bernard from a snowy bed, where they sank down to a fatal slumber which they could not shake off, and instance after instance where the noble dog, finding himself powerless to help his loved master, has gone and procured aid in time.

The Newfoundland dog is truly the friend of man. At all times the sagacious animal is ready to help and succor him in danger. A gentleman bathing in the sea at Portsmouth was in danger of being drowned. Help was loudly called for, but no boat was ready, and though many persons were looking on, none could be found to rescue the drowning man, until at last a Newfoundland dog rushed into the sea and brought the gentleman safe to land. He afterward purchased the dog for a large sum, and treated him with great kindness as long as he lived.

A story is told of a Newfoundland dog named Bruno. The writer says: “He is always ready for a merry romp with the children ;



he will submit, without any show of anger, to all the tortures that they unwittingly inflict upon him. Many a time have I seen him in winter, when the snow was packed hard, go dashing down the street drawing a sled, upon which was a boy or two firmly grasping him by the tail. As they flew along he would bark a joyous accompaniment to the shouts of the children. No child ever loved to play 'blind man's buff' more dearly than he, and he is always a welcome companion. He will stand patiently wagging his tail, waiting for the handkerchief to be adjusted over his eyes, and, when it is announced that all is ready, he will cock up his ears and listen for the faintest sound to indicate the whereabouts of his playmates. A faint titter, the rustling of a dress, or the tell-tale sound of a footstep, will give him his clue, and away he will dash, with a bark of joy, in pursuit. Now the fun is fast and furious, and agile and noiseless must be the child that escapes him, for his keen nose and sharp ears make him a formidable one to evade. When at last he catches some one, he is always careful not to be too rough, and no child stands in fear of him on these occasions. How dearly the children love to engage him in a game of hide and seek, and with what earnestness, cunning and industry he will hunt until he has succeeded in finding the last one of them.

“He is passionately fond of the water, and is always perfectly happy when some one is throwing sticks for him to retrieve, or stones, in water three or four feet deep, for him to dive after. By his strength and sagacity he has saved two or three of his child companions from drowning. On one occasion his master's little sister and another little girl would surely have drowned had it not been for him. On another occasion his young master, who was swimming in a lake some distance from shore, became wearied and alarmed, and cried for help, when the noble dog, who was lying on the shore, sprang into the water and swam out to the boy, who, taking hold of him, was towed safely to shore, which he reached in a very exhausted condition. Thus has he endeared himself to his master's family, until nothing is thought to be too good for him, and when his final summons comes, and his dog's soul takes its flight to the shadowy beyond, he will be deeply and sincerely mourned.”

Mr. Tyler, a minister, owned a large Newfoundland dog named Watch, and Watch was bent on going to church with Mrs. Tyler. She, in her turn, was much opposed to his going, fearing that he might excite the mirth of the children. Every Sunday a series of maneuvers took place between the two, in which Watch often proved himself the keenest. Sometimes he slipped away very early, and Mrs. Tyler, after having searched for him to shut him up, would go to church and find Watch seated in the family pew, looking very grave and decorous, but evidently aware that it was too late to turn him out. Sometimes he would hide himself until the family had all started for church, and would then follow the footsteps of some tardy worshiper who tiptoed in during prayers with creaking boots; and then didn't Watch know that Mrs. Tyler would open the pew door in haste, to prevent his whining for admission? When Mr. Tyler became earnest in his appeals, he often repeated the same word with a ringing emphasis and a blow on the desk cushion that startled the sleepers in the pews. One day he thus shouted out, quoting the well-known text, "Watch! Watch! Watch! I say!" When rustle, rustle, bounce, came his big dog, almost into his very arms. You may be sure the boys all took occasion to relieve their pent-up restlessness by one uproarious laugh, before their astonished parents had time to frown them into silence. Honest Watch had been sitting with his eyes fixed, as usual, on the minister. At the first mention of his name, up went his ears, and his eyes kindled; at the second, he was still more deeply moved; at the third he obeyed, and flew completely over pew-rail and pulpit door, with leaps that did equal honor to his muscular powers and his desire to obey. After such a strict interpretation of the letter rather than spirit, Watch was effectually forbidden church-going.

It is probable that the mastiff is an original breed peculiar to the British Islands. They are the most faithful and reliable of watch-dogs, and, when properly trained, they will in the course of the night several times examine everything with which they are intrusted, with the most scrupulous care, even more faithfully than a human watchman.

Dr. —, of New Jersey, discovered a robber in his house in the middle of the night. A terrible encounter took place, but just as

the doctor was about to succumb, his mastiff dog came to his aid and the robber was terribly bitten. The dog saved the doctor's life.

The Hospice of St. Bernard pass was built about the year 962, where a temple of Jupiter stood, and was constructed from the ruins of the temple. This convent stands 7,668 feet above the sea-level, and is undoubtedly the highest inhabited spot in Europe. Nine months in the year the snow is thick on the ground, and in the very worst part of winter from 1,500 to 2,000 of the poor inhabitants of the low countries pass over the mountains. Every night the monks send out some of their dogs, which are trained to search for the benighted and frozen wanderer. Very many travelers have been thus rescued from death by these benevolent men and their intelligent and interesting quadruped servants.

A St. Bernard dog named Barry had a medal tied around his neck as a badge of honorable distinction, for he had saved the lives of forty persons. He at length died nobly in his vocation. A Piedmontese courier arrived at St. Bernard on a very stormy day, laboring to make his way to the little village of St. Pierre, in the valley beneath the mountain, where his wife and children lived. It was in vain that the monks attempted to check his resolution to reach his family. They at last gave him two guides, each of whom was accompanied by a dog, one of which was the remarkable creature whose services had been so valuable. Descending from the convent, they were overwhelmed by two avalanches or heaps of falling snow, and the same destruction awaited the family of the poor courier, who were traveling up the mountain in the hope of obtaining some news of the husband and father. A beautiful engraving has been made of this noble dog. It represents him as saving a child which he had found in the Glacier of Balsore, and cherished, and warmed, and induced to climb upon his shoulders, and thus preserved from otherwise certain destruction. Barry was vigorous and active at the age of fifteen years, although they generally succumb to rheumatism in their tenth year. His remains are preserved in the Berne Museum, wearing an iron collar with large spikes which had often

protected him from the wolves. And it is said the remains of this noble dog constitute one of the most interesting specimens in the Museum.

It is stated that the favorite lap-dog of Mary, Queen of Scots, that accompanied her to the scaffold, continued to caress the body after the head was cut off, and refused to relinquish his post till forcibly withdrawn, and afterwards died with grief in the course of a day or two.

The following account is also an authentic instance of the inconsolable grief displayed by a small dog at the death of his master : A poor tailor in the parish of St. Olave, having died, was attended to the grave by his dog, who had expressed every token of sorrow from the instant of his master's death, and seemed unwilling to quit the corpse even for a moment. After the funeral had dispersed, the faithful animal took his station upon the grave, and was with great difficulty driven by the sexton from the church ground ; on the following day he was again observed lying on the grave of his master, and was a second time expelled from the premises. Notwithstanding the harsh treatment received on several succeeding days by the hands of the sexton, this little creature would persist in occupying this position, and overcame every difficulty to gain access to the spot where all he held most dear was deposited. The minister of the parish, learning the circumstances of the case, ordered the dog to be carried to his house, where he was confined and fed for several days, in hopes of weaning him by kind treatment to forget his sorrow occasioned by the loss of his master. But all his benevolent efforts were of no utility, as the dog availed himself of the first opportunity to escape, and immediately repaired to his chosen spot over the grave. This worthy clergyman now allowed him to follow the bent of his own inclinations ; and, as a recompense for true friendship and unfeigned sorrow, had a house built for him over the hallowed spot, and daily supplied him with food and water for the space of two years, during which time he never wandered from his post, but, as a faithful guardian, kept his lonely watch day and night, till death at last put an end to his sufferings.

'Twas his master's grave where he chose to rest—  
He guarded it night and day ;  
The love that glowed in his grateful breast  
For the friend who had fed him and caressed  
Could never fade away.

And when he struggled with mortal pain,  
And death was by his side,  
With one loud cry, that shook the plain,  
He called for his master—but called in vain ;  
Then stretched himself and died.

The French army has trained dogs to act as scouts, messengers and sentinels. When a dog is on messenger duty he carries dispatches between the main army and the distant outposts, the dispatch being enclosed in a hollow space in the collar. The sentinel dogs are said to scent strangers one hundred yards off, and, directly they do so, begin to bark and growl. The training necessary for the scout is very elaborate, as he has to be taught to search fields and thickets, in which soldiers dressed in foreign uniforms are lying in ambush. As soon as the animals find the enemy it is their business to run back to their own friends, and to report what they have seen. - Owing to their superior intelligence, collies and poodles are principally used.

Probably no dog has ever rendered such signal military service, or been so honorably recognized, as the celebrated poodle *Mustache*, who shared the victorious fortunes of the French army through most of the wars of the Consulate and the French Empire. He won special honors at Marengo, and was decorated on the battle-field of Austerlitz by Marshal Lannes as a reward for having rescued his regimental standard from an Austrian soldier when in the act of snatching it from the grasp of the standard-bearer, as he fell mortally wounded. The plucky poodle drove off the assailant, and then, seizing the tattered colors in his teeth, dragged them triumphantly till he reached his own company. Many are the incidents recorded of the bravery and sagacity of this prince of poodles. In the van of scouting parties he discovered many an Austrian ambush, and on at least one occasion he drew attention to the presence of a disguised spy in the camp. Moreover, to his vigilance was due the failure of a night attack by a body of Aus-



trians, of whose vicinity in the Valley of Balbo the French were apparently ignorant.

In the days when bows and arrows were the weapons used in battle, the bloodhound was a most useful addition to an army, and later on, before electricity and steam were brought into use, it was kept to trace criminals, slave-owners generally keeping two or three to bring the runaways back to work.

The advance of civilization, the introduction of gunpowder, the establishment of the police, the discovery of electricity and locomotive power, and the abolition of the slave trade, have consigned the use of the bloodhound to the history of the past. As an ornamental dog, it, however, remains highly prized, in some part owing to the knowledge of what it is capable of doing when put to the test, occasional instances even now being recorded of some important discoveries having been made by this intelligent hound. It is only a few years ago that a thief was caught in Epping Forest by the instrumentality of a bloodhound, and about the same time a hound chained up as a watch-dog in a tanyard in Devonshire, on being let loose, ran (for three miles) the line of a man who had stolen some leather, and caught him red-handed with the goods.

Much has been written about the origin of the bloodhound, but little learned, as it is one of the first breeds spoken of in early literature, on account of its having been used in early warfare to trace fugitives. To quote the words of "Tickell":

"O'er all the bloodhound boasts superior skill,  
To scent, to view, to turn, to boldly kill."

Generally speaking, however, the bloodhound of former days would not injure the culprit that did not attempt to escape, but would lie down quietly and give notice by a loud and peculiar howl what kind of prey he had found. Some, however, of a savage disposition, or trained to unnatural ferocity, would tear to pieces the hunted wretch, if timely rescue did not arrive.

"A wild hound of this race was used by the Spaniards in the conquest of the Western hemisphere. This dog was not deficient in intelligence of a low order, but he had a look of relentless ferocity and bloodthirstiness terrible to behold." \*

---

\* New Physiognomy, p. 610.

The use of this dog calls up some of the most painful recollections in the history of the human race. The Spaniards had possessed themselves of several of the South American islands. They found them peopled with Indians, and those of a sensual, brutish and barbarous class. They procured some of these dogs, by whose assistance they penetrated into every part of the country, and destroyed the greater portion of the former inhabitants. Las Casas, a Catholic priest, and whose life was employed in endeavoring to mitigate the sufferings of the original inhabitants, says that "it was resolved to march against the Indians, who had fled to the mountains, and they were chased like wild beasts, with the assistance of bloodhounds, who had been trained to a thirst for human blood, so that before I had left the island it had become almost entirely a desert."

Mr. John Lawrence says that a servant, discharged by a sporting country gentleman, broke into his stables by night and cut off the ears and tail of a favorite hunter. As soon as it was discovered, a bloodhound was brought into the stable, who at once detected the scent of the miscreant and traced it more than twenty miles. He then stopped at a door, whence no power could move him. Being at length admitted, he ran to the top of the house, and, bursting open the door of a garret, found the object that he sought in bed, and would have torn him to pieces had not the huntsman, who had followed him on a fleet horse, rushed up after him. Somerville thus describes the use to which he was generally put, in pursuit of the robber :

"Soon the sagacious brute, his curling tail  
Flourished in air, low bending, plies around  
His busy nose, the steaming vapor snuffs  
Inquisitive, nor leaves one turf untried,  
Till, conscious of the recent stains, his heart  
Beats quick. His snuffing nose, his active tail,  
Attest his joy. Then, with deep opening mouth,  
That makes the welkin tremble, he proclaims  
Th' audacious felon. Foot by foot he marks  
His winding way. Over the watery ford,  
Dry sandy heaths, and stony barren hills,  
Unerring he pursues, till at the cot  
Arrived, and, seizing by his guilty throat  
The caitiff vile, redeems the captive prey."

The Scotch staghound is a large, strong and fierce dog. In appearance this magnificent breed of dogs resembles the English greyhound, but is larger and has rough, wiry hair instead of a smooth coat. The head is carried particularly high and gives the animal a noble appearance. Many accounts have been given of the perfection of its scent, and it is said to have followed a wounded deer during two successive days.

On the heights of the moorlands, the night clouds are sleeping,  
 Enfolded in mist every glen, every crag ;  
 Every Scotchman asleep, save the deerstalker creeping,  
 With rifle and hound, in pursuit of the stag.

With his hound—or, say rather, companion and brother,  
 For Nature has set to affection no bound ;  
 What son more obedient and loving, what mother  
 More loved, than that man by his favorite hound ?

In the still of the morning their hearts beat together,  
 The same keen excitement is stirring each breast ;  
 Be it man, be it dog, the bejeweled pink heather  
 Scarce feels the soft footfall so cautiously press'd.

The only fault which these dogs have is their occasional ill-temper, or even ferocity ; but this does not extend to the owner and his family. His appearance indicates strength, in which, indeed, he is unequalled, and he has sufficient speed to render it difficult for the best horses long to keep pace with him ; while, as is necessary when the distance between the foot-marks of the deer is considered, his scent is most exquisite. He is seldom at fault and rarely fails to run down his game. They were first brought into prominence in this country by English sporting gentlemen, who used them for antelope and deer hunting in the western wilds.

“Ere the rising sun has blushed the early morn,  
 The sly old buck has heard the hunter's horn ;  
 The shouts of men, the trusty charger's neigh,  
 But high above them all the-hound's deep bay.”

The English deerhound has been used from time immemorial in the chase of the deer. The most tyrannical laws were enforced for the preservation of this species of game, and the life of the deer, except when sacrificed in the chase, was guarded with even more strictness than the life of the human being.



Of the stoutness of this dog the following anecdotes will be a sufficient illustration. A deer, in the spring of 1822, was turned out before the Earl of Derby's hounds at Hayes Common. The chase was continued nearly four hours without a check, when, being almost run down, the animal took refuge in some out-houses, near Speldhurst, in Kent, more than forty miles across the country, having actually run more than fifty miles. Nearly twenty horses died in the field, or in consequence of the severity of the chase. A stag was turned out at Wingfield Park, in Northumberland. The whole pack, with the exception of two hounds, was, after a long run, thrown out. The stag returned to his accustomed haunt, and, as his last effort, leaped the wall of the park, and lay down and died. One of the hounds, unable to clear the wall, fell and expired and the other was found dead at a little distance. They had run about forty miles. When the stag first hears the cry of the hounds he runs with the swiftness of the wind, and continues to run as long as any sound of his pursuers can be distinguished.

“An hundred dogs bayed deep and strong,  
Clattered an hundred steeds along.”

Since the decline in stag-hunting, the English deerhound, as a distinct breed, is unknown in that country. All those packs that now hunt the stag are pure foxhounds, with the exception of Mr. Nevill's in Hampshire, which are called “Black St. Huberts.” Those dogs are referred to in Sir Walter Scott's “Lady of the Lake”:

“Two dogs of black St. Hubert's breed,  
Unmatched for courage, breath and speed,  
Fast on his flying traces came,  
And all but won that desperate game.”

As a general complete poetic, yet accurate, description of the chase, I know of nothing to compare with Sir Walter Scott's, which I therefore transcribe:

“As chief, who hears his warder call,  
'To arms! the foemen storm the wall,'  
The antler'd monarch of the waste  
Sprung from his heathery couch in haste.

But, ere his fleet career he took,  
The dew-drops from his flanks he shook;  
Like crested leader, proud and high,  
Toss'd his beam'd frontlet to the sky;  
A moment gazed adown the dale,  
A moment suuff'd the tainted gale,  
A moment listen'd to the cry,  
That thickened as the chase drew nigh;  
Then, as the headmost foës appear'd,  
With one brave bound the copse he clear'd,  
And, stretching forward free and far,  
Sought the wild heaths of Uam-Var."

The greyhound, deerhound and harrier were for many centuries the only hunting-dogs. The foxhound has been much more recently bred. The modern foxhound has had more attention paid to his shape and has been kept more pure than any other breed of dogs in existence. Most kennels of any standing possess stud-books dating back one hundred years, and can trace the pedigree of every hound in their packs for that time. This is almost equal to that of the English thoroughbred horse, and far greater than that of the greyhound, few pedigrees of which go back in all their lines more than ten generations. "Cecil" has lately published the "Hound Stud Book," which proves this statement without a doubt, and makes the study of the various strains of the foxhound doubly interesting.

Some extraordinary accounts have been given of the speed of the foxhound. A match that was run over the Beacon Course at Newmarket is the best illustration of his fleetness. The distance is four miles one furlong and 132 yards. The winning dog performed it in eight minutes and a few seconds; but of the sixty horses that started with the hounds, only twelve were able to run in with them. Flying Childers had run the same course in seven minutes and thirty seconds.

Frank Forrester says: "It is remarkable, though by no means new, as a fact, that the most general of all human passions, not directly connected with the gratification of the senses, is the passion for the chase. From the savage ranger of the wilderness to the effeminate dweller of the crowded city, from the proudest magnate of European realms to their humblest serf, no race, no

class, no age, no sex of the human family, seems to be exempt from this pervading, passionate, self-originated frenzy for pursuit. Witness, whoever has seen, in our Western hunting-grounds, a stag, or bear, driven from his native fastnesses into the cultivated clearings, with the whole neighborhood arising on his track to share, at least with their eyes and ears, the thrilling rapture of the ' Hunt's up ! ' ”

Why it should be so, this is neither the time nor place to inquire. Our article on hounds is already somewhat extended, but we shall again find it necessary to refer to them later on in connection with sheep.

Burchell, in his " Travels in Africa," places the connection between man and the dog, and the good qualities of this animal, in an interesting point of view. A pack of dogs of various descriptions formed a necessary part of his caravan, occasionally to provide him with food, but oftener to defend him from wild beasts or robbers. " While almost every other quadruped fears man as his most formidable enemy," says this interesting traveler, " there is one who regards him as his companion, and follows him as his friend. We must not mistake the nature of the case. It is not because we train him to our use, and have made choice of him in preference to other animals, but because this particular species of animal feels a natural desire to be useful to man, and, from spontaneous impulse, attaches himself to him. Were it not so, we should see in various countries an equal familiarity with other quadrupeds, according to their habits and the taste or caprices of different nations, but, everywhere, it is the dog only that takes delight in associating with us, and sharing our abode. It is he who knows us personally, watches over us, and warns us of danger. It is impossible for the naturalist not to feel a conviction that this friendship between creatures so different from each other must be the result of the laws of nature; nor can the humane and feeling mind avoid the belief that kindness to those animals, from which he derives continued and essential assistance, is part of the moral duty of man. Often in the silence of the night, when all my people have been fast asleep around the fire, have I stood to contemplate these faithful animals watching by their side, and have

learned to esteem them for their social inclination towards mankind. When wandering over pathless deserts, oppressed with vexation and distress at the conduct of my own men, I have turned to these as my only friends, and felt how much inferior to them was man when actuated only by selfish views."

Of the staunchness and incorruptible fidelity of the dog, and his disregard of personal inconvenience and want, when employed in our service, it is impossible to entertain a doubt. We have sometimes thought that the attachment of the dog to its master was increased, or at least the exhibition of it, by the penury of the owner. At all events one fact is plain enough, that, while poverty drives away from us many a companion of our happier hours, it was never known to diminish the love of our quadruped friend.

The early history of the dog has been described, and the abomination in which he was held by the Israelites. At no great distance of time, however, we find him, almost in the neighborhood of Palestine, in one of the islands of the Ionian Sea, the companion and the friend of princes, and deserving their regard. The following is a somewhat abbreviated account of the last meeting of Ulysses and his dog. Twenty years had passed since Argus, the favorite dog of Ulysses, had been parted from his master. The monarch at length wended his way homewards, and, disguised as a beggar, for his life would have been sacrificed had he been known, stood at the entrance of his palace-door. There he met with an old dependent, who had formerly served him with fidelity and who was yet faithful to his memory; but age and hardship and care, and the disguise which he now wore, had so altered the wanderer that the good Eumæus had not the most distant suspicion with whom he was conversing; but—

"Near to the gates, conferring as they drew,  
Argus the dog his ancient master knew,  
And, not unconscious of the voice and tread,  
Lifts to the sound his ears, and rears his head.  
He knew his lord, he knew, and strove to meet;  
In vain he strove to crawl and kiss his feet:  
Yet, all he could, his tail, his ears, his eyes,  
Salute his master, and confess his joys."<sup>\*</sup>

---

\*Pope's *Odyssey*, xvii

In Daniel's "Rural Sports," the account of a nobleman and his dog is given. The nobleman had been absent two years on foreign service. On his return this faithful creature was the first to recognize him, as he came through the court-yard, and he flew to welcome his old master and friend. He sprung upon him; his agitation and his joy knew no bounds; and at length, in the fullness of his transport, he fell at his master's feet and expired.

Every one has heard of the faithful greyhound Gelert, to whose care was left his master's infant child in the cradle. When the father returned from the chase he found the cradle overturned and the child nowhere to be seen. The father, thinking the dog had killed the child, slew him on the spot.—

"Hellhound! by thee my child's devoured!"  
The frantic father cried;  
And to the hilt his vengeful sword  
He plunged in Gelert's side."

But he soon regretted his rashness, for, on looking under the bed, he found the infant alive and well, and not far off the body of a large wolf which the noble Gelert had killed. A splendid tomb was erected to this faithful dog, and an image of him made of marble was placed upon it, with the word "FIDELITY" carved upon the stone. Prince Lewellyn, the owner of Gelert, lived in the time of King John, in the early part of the thirteenth century.

One instance of dog sense that will strike home is told by a Captain Brown. A gentleman, requesting the loan of a pointer from a friend, was informed that he was a perfect pointer, but could not stomach a bad shot. Unfortunate'y for the dog, the borrower was a poor shot, and missed bird after bird. Eventually the dog grew careless, but finally came to a good point, seemingly at a fern-bush. The sportsman advanced, and out sprang a fine black-cock. Both barrels missed him, and the dog's patience was so exhausted that he gave a howl, tucked his tail between his legs and put out for home. If more dogs of this kind existed, half the powder manufacturers would shut up shop.

"See how the well-taught pointer leads the way;  
The scent grows warm; he stops; he springs the prey;  
The fluttering covey from the stubble rise,  
And on swift wing divide the sounding skies!"

—Gay, Rural Sports.



A very good anecdote is related illustrative of the advantage of having a well-broken dog. A deacon who lived in New Hampshire was very fond of shooting and had a favorite well-trained setter. It happened that one evening, while the deacon was exhorting earnestly at a prayer-meeting, the deacon's setter entered and started with a bound to his master, when quick as a flash the deacon raised his hand with a warning gesture and exclaimed: "Thou hast given us our *charge*; help us to keep it." At the emphasized word, "charge," the dog dropped, as if shot, on the very threshold of the door, with his eyes fixed on his master. In the same unmoved tone, with a slight wave of the extended hand, the deacon exclaimed: "We would not return *back* to Thee with our duty on earth unfulfilled." At the emphasized word "back," the dog went out as noiselessly as he had entered and waited for the deacon outside.

The following, written by Courtney Langdon, whose profession confines him to college life and among books, shows that the love for dog and gun and appreciation of them are not confined to those who are disposed to keep and handle them. These lines refer to his brother's favorite setter dog, that was found dead on the railroad track, killed by a passing train. He had been a faithful and true hunting companion, and a loving and gentle friend to the household, and especially to the children:

"Some tribute to thy memory I would raise,  
Some humble testimonial to thy praise,  
Old friend, that never again shalt idly roam  
From yonder yard, thy pleasant man-built home.  
Companion, aye, far more, my brother's friend,  
As more than dog, we mourn thy cruel end;  
Thy mate in silence grieves as dogs may grieve,  
Nor can thy master even now believe  
That thou no more shalt lick his petting hand,  
No more thy graceful form beside him stand;  
The child, fair playmate of each idle day,  
Will miss thee often in his childish play,  
And at thy name in wonder point his hand,  
Not to thy kennel, but to far-off land,  
Where child and man place those whose loss they mourn,  
When far from human love and care they're borne."

In tracing the dog back to the very earliest period of history, the fact that he then seemed to be as sagacious, as faithful and as valuable as at the present day, strongly favors the opinion that he descended from no inferior and comparatively worthless animal—that he was not the progeny of the wolf, the jackal or the fox, but he was originally created, somewhat as we now find him, the associate and the friend of man. If, within the first thousand years after the deluge, we observe that divine honors were paid to him, we can scarcely be brought to believe his wolfish genealogy. The most savage animals are capable of affection for those to whom they have been accustomed and by whom they have been well treated, and, therefore, we give full credit to several accounts of this sort related of the wolf, the lion and even the cat and the reptile; but in no other animal—in no other, even in the genus *Canis*—do we find the qualities of the domestic dog, or the slightest approach to them. “To his master he flies with alacrity,” say the eloquent Buffon, “and submissively lays at his feet all his courage, strength and talent. A glance of the eye is sufficient; for he understands the smallest indications of his will. He has all the ardor of friendship, and fidelity and constancy in his affections, which man can have. Neither interest nor desire of revenge can corrupt him, and he has no fear but that of displeasing. He is all zeal and obedience. He speedily forgets ill-usage, or only recollects it to make returning attachment the stronger. He licks the hand which causes him pain, and subdues his anger by submission. The training of the dog seems to have been the first art invented by man, and the fruit of that art was the conquest and peaceable possession of the earth.” “Man,” says Burns, “is the God of the dog; he knows no other; and see how he worships him. With what reverence he crouches at his feet—with what reverence he looks up to him—with what delight he fawns upon him, and with what cheerful alacrity he obeys him!”

If any of the lower animals bear about them the impress of the divine hand, it is found in the dog: many others are plainly and decidedly more or less connected with the welfare of the human being; but this connection and its effects are limited to a few points, or often to one alone. The dog, different, yet the same, in

every region, seems to be formed expressly to administer to our comforts and to our pleasure. He displays a versatility, and yet a perfect unity of power and character, which mark him as our destined servant, and, still more, as our companion and friend. Other animals may be brought to a certain degree of familiarity, and may display much affection and gratitude. There was scarcely an animal in the menagerie of the Zoological Society that did not acknowledge the superintendent as his friend ; but it was only a casual intercourse, and might be dissolved by a word or look. At the hour of feeding, the brute principle reigned supreme and the companion of other hours would be sacrificed if he dared to interfere ; but the connection between man and the dog, no lapse of time, no change of circumstances, no infliction of evil, can dissolve. We must, therefore, look far beyond the wolf for the prototype of the dog.

Cuvier eloquently states that the dog exhibits the most complete and the most useful conquest that man has made. Each individual is entirely devoted to his master, adopts his manners, distinguishes and defends his property, and remains attached to him even unto death ; and all this springing not from mere necessity, or from constraint, but simply from gratitude and true friendship. The swiftness, the strength and the highly developed power of smelling of the dog, have made him a powerful ally of man against the other animals ; these qualities in the dog were necessary to the establishment of society. It is the only animal that has followed the human being all over the earth.

There is occasionally a friendship existing between dogs resembling that which is found in the human being, which the following anecdote well illustrates : Two dogs, the property of a gentleman at Shrewsbury, had been companions for many years, until one of them died of old age. The survivor immediately began to manifest an extraordinary degree of restless anxiety, searching for his old associate in all his former haunts and refusing every kind of food. He gradually wasted away, and at the expiration of the tenth day he died, the victim of an attachment that would have done honor to man.

Books teem with anecdotes of the fidelity of the dog and their attachment to their master, his property and family. Many of



these incidents attest alike memory, judgment and reflection, no less than affection, and cases which are well authenticated show these in dogs of all degrees. Wordsworth has beautifully embodied one of these in the following lines :

“ A barking sound the shepherd hears,  
 A cry as of a dog or fox ;  
 He halts, and searches with his eyes  
 Among the scattered rocks :  
 And now at distance can discern  
 A stirring in a brake of fern ;  
 And instantly a dog is seen,  
 Glancing through that covert green.

“ The dog is not of mountain breed ;  
 Its motions, too, are wild and shy,  
 With something, as the shepherd thinks,  
 Unusual in its cry.  
 Nor is there any one in sight  
 All round, in hollow or on height ;  
 Nor shout nor whistle strikes the ear ;  
 What is the creature doing here ?

“ Not free from boding thoughts, a while  
 The shepherd stood ; then makes his way  
 Toward the dog, o'er rocks and stones,  
 As quickly as he may ;  
 Nor far had gone before he found  
 A human skeleton on the ground !  
 Th' appall'd discoverer with a sigh  
 Looks round to learn the history.

“ Yes, proof was plain, that since that day  
 When this ill-fated traveler died  
 The dog had watched about the spot,  
 Or by his master's side.  
 How nourish'd here through such long time  
 He knows who gave that love sublime,  
 And gave that strength of feeling great  
 Above all human estimate.”

At the hard fought battle of Aughrim an Irish officer was accompanied by his wolfhound. This gentleman was killed and his body stripped on the battle-field, but the dog remained by it both by day and night. He fed upon some of the other bodies with the rest of the dogs, yet he would not allow them, or any one else,

to come near that of his master. When all the other bodies were consumed the other dogs departed, but this faithful creature used to go in the night to the adjacent village for food, and in the morning return to the place where his master's bones only were then left. This he continued to do from July, when the battle was fought, through the cold and dreary winter until the January following, when a soldier, whose regiment was quartered near that spot, going that way by chance, the dog, fearing he came to disturb his beloved master's bones, flew with great fierceness upon the soldier, who, being thrown off his guard by the suddenness of the attack, unslung his carbine, he having been thrown on his back, and killed the noble animal.

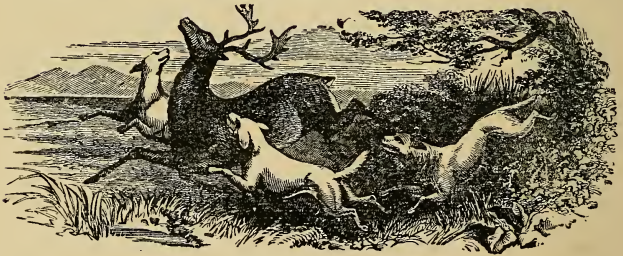
One of the most striking proofs of the influence of climate on the form and character of this animal occurs in the bull-dog. When transported to India he becomes in a few years greatly altered in form, loses all his former courage and ferocity, and becomes a perfect coward. Captain Williamson says "that many persons affect to treat the idea of degeneration in quadrupeds with ridicule; but all who have been any considerable time resident in India must be satisfied that dogs of European breed become, after every successive generation, more and more similar to the pariah, or indigenous dog of that country. The hounds are the most rapid in their decline, and, except in the form of their ears, they are very much like many of the village curs."\* Mr. Hodgson found the wild dog more or less prevailing through the whole of Northern India, and even southward of the coast of Coromandel. He thought that he had discovered the primitive race of the dog. The wild dog is essentially the same in every part of that immense extent of country. There is no more reason, however, for concluding that it was the primitive dog, than for conferring on the Indian cattle the same honor among the ruminants. The truth of the matter is that we have no guide what was the original breed in any country. This is a point that can never be decided.

It is probable all dogs sprang from one common source, but climate, food and cross-breeding caused variations of form which

---

\* Williamson's "Oriental Field Sports."

suggested particular uses, and these, being either designedly or accidentally perpetuated, the various breeds of dogs thus arose. Buffon imagines that the shepherd's dog—transported to different climates, and acquiring different habits—was the ancestor of the various species with which almost every country abounds; but whence they originally came it is impossible to say. They vary in their size, their color, their attitude, their usual exterior and their strangely different interior construction. Transported into various climates, they are necessarily submitted to the influence of heat and cold, and of food more or less abundant and more or less suitable to their natural organization; but the reason or the derivation of these differences of structure it is not always easy to explain.



## CHAPTER II.

### THE SHEPHERD DOG.

One breed may rise, another fall,  
But the Shepherd Dog survives them all.

Among the highly cultivated breeds of dogs, the shepherd dog enjoys a world-wide reputation for his intelligence and sagacity exercised in the service of man. The shepherd dog, though moving in an humble sphere, doubtless inherits, like the ancient races of men, the result of many centuries of cultivation. His aptitude for certain duties connected with the care of sheep are most astonishing, and he is perhaps, on the whole, the most highly organized, as he is certainly the most useful, of all dogs.

When the pastures were in a manner open to the first occupant, and every shepherd had a common property in them, it was not so necessary to restrain the wandering of the sheep, and the voice of the shepherd was usually sufficient to collect and to guide them. He preceded the flock, and they "followed him whithersoever he went." Much is written by Jewish historians of shepherds and flocks, but the only allusion throughout the whole of the Scriptures which can apply to the shepherd dog is to be found in the first verse of the thirtieth chapter of Job, in which Job says: "Now they that are younger than I have me in derision, whose fathers I would have disdained to have set with the dogs of my flocks." Dr. Tristram, in his "Natural History of the Bible," says the dogs were only used as guards, to protect the herds and flocks from wolves and jackals, and not to drive them. The Jews classed the dog among the unclean animals, and with few exceptions he is seldom the chosen companion of the Jew, or even the inmate of his house, to the present day. This being the case, there is little wonder that Jewish writers should have failed to make frequent men-

tion of so useful an animal as the shepherd's dog. In process of time, however, man availed himself of the sagacity of the dog to diminish his own labor and fatigue, and this useful servitor became the guide and defender of the flock.

Professor Grogner gives the following account of this dog as he is found in France: "The shepherd's dog, the least removed from the natural type of the dog, is of a middle size; his ears short and straight; the hair long, principally on the tail, and of a dark color; the tail is carried horizontally or a little elevated. He is very indifferent to caresses, possessed of much intelligence and activity to discharge the duties for which he was designed. In one or other of its varieties it is found in every part of France. Sometimes there is but a single breed, in others there are several varieties. It lives and maintains its proper characteristics, while other races often degenerate. Everywhere it preserves its proper distinguishing type. It is the servant of man, while other breeds vary with a thousand circumstances. It has one appropriate mission, and that it discharges in the most admirable way: there is evidently a kind and wise design in this." This account of the French sheep-dog, or of the sheep-dog everywhere, is as true as it is beautiful. One age succeeds to another, we pass from one climate to another, and everything varies and changes, but the shepherd's dog is what he ever was—the guardian of our flocks. There are, however, two or more species of this dog; the one which Professor Grogner has described, and which guards and guides the sheep in the open and level country, where wolves seldom intrude; another crossed with the mastiff, or little removed from that dog, used in the woody and mountainous countries, their guard more than their guide.\* In Great Britain, where he has principally to guide, and not to guard, the flock, he is comparatively a small dog.

In whatever country the dog is used 'partly or principally to protect the flock from the ravages of the wolf, he is as gentle as a lamb, except when opposed to his natural enemy; and it is only in England that the guardian of the sheep occasionally injures and

---

\*The migratory sheep, in some parts of the south of France almost as numerous as in Spain, are attended by a *goat*, as a guide; and the intelligence and apparent pride which he displays are remarkable.

worries them, and that many can be found bearing the mark of the tooth. This may be somewhat excusable (although it is often carried to a barbarous extent) in the drover's dog, but it will admit of no apology in the shepherd dog. It is the result of the idleness and brutality of the shepherd, who is attempting to make the dog do his own work and that of his master, too.

The English sheep-dog, or drover's dog, is of such ancient origin that its early history is enveloped in obscurity. It is supposed that the breed was originally tailless like the Manx cats, but it sometimes happens that several in a litter are born with tails of full length. Stonehenge, on "The Dog," p. 123, says: "Under the old excise laws the shepherd dog was only exempt from tax when without a tail, and for this reason it was always removed; from which last it happened that many puppies of the breed were born without any tails."

The earliest work on the subject of the shepherd dog written in the English language was Dr. Canis' "Treatise on Englishe Dogges," published in 1550. This book was originally in Latin, and translated by Abraham Fleming. Dr. Canis devotes a chapter to the shepherd dog (which he calls the shepherd's hound), from which we give a brief extract: "This dog, either at the hearing of his master's voice, or at the wagging of his fist, or at his shrill and hoarse whistling and hissing, bringeth the wandering wethers and straying sheep into the self-same place where his master's will and work is to have them, whereby the shepherd reapeth the benefit, namely, that with little labor and no toil of moving his feet he may rule and guide his flock according to his own desire, either to have them go forward or stand still, or to draw backward, or to turn this way or to take that way." The popular author Youatt (1845) tells us little or nothing about this dog, but his illustration represents him as an ordinary collie without a tail. Richardson, in 1850, gives an extended description of this dog, which he alludes to as "the shepherd's dog of England," and says he is larger and stronger, and fully equal in sagacity to its more northern relative. Dr. Kerr says: "With regard to the sagacity of this breed I consider it has few equals and certainly no superior. Many years ago, when our island was principally primeval forest with few



clearings, it must necessarily have been infested with wolves and bears, and, to protect the flocks and herds, it must have been requisite to have a large and powerful dog, able to cope with such formidable and destructive foes, and to undergo any amount of fatigue, and with a jacket to withstand all vicissitudes of weather, for his avocation was an every-day one; day and night, and in all weathers, was he watching and battling with heat and storms and marauding foes." The English sheep-dog is heavier and stronger than the collie, and the original breed was undoubtedly a larger dog than those of the present day.

England, Scotland and Wales have each laid claim to the original possession of the bob-tailed sheep-dog. There is no doubt he was at one time about equally distributed throughout the United Kingdom, but at the present time he is found in the highest perfection in the south and west, where a dog of his description is most required. He has been found most useful as a drover's dog, and is oftener seen following stockmen through the streets of London than in any other locality. They are quiet, steady, patient workers, and are not apt to hurry stock, which, as drovers know, is a serious injury to cattle and sheep in our hot summers. They are not often seen in this country, but can be procured from large kennels in the East. At present they are not quite suitable for a domestic companion, as they are more or less surly in disposition, though improved associations may remedy this, but as a household pet he is not likely to become fashionable like the modern collie.

A flock of a thousand sheep in Spain requires the attention of two men, and an equal number of dogs, who never for a moment quit their charge, watching them without intermission day and night. The original Spanish shepherd dog is a very powerful animal, and, when armed with spike collar, is a sufficient match for the largest wolves that infest the mountainous parts of Spain most frequented by the herds during the summer season. They are said to be very ferocious, and will allow no strange person or animal to approach the flock. They are very faithful to their charge, and, if employed in this country, would not only defend the sheep from the bloodthirsty wolf, but even attack, if necessary, the skulking savage. Some years since a flock of merinos was sent

from Spain to England, accompanied by the shepherd and his dog. During the shepherd's temporary absence one of the sheep fell into a ditch and was unable to extricate itself. A young man that was passing went to the sheep's assistance, but the Spanish shepherd dog commenced to growl, and a bystander told the young man it was not safe to touch the sheep ; but he persisted in doing so. The dog immediately sprang on him and mangled his arm, so that it had to be amputated. In order to save the dog's life, he was smuggled over to this country, where he did good duty with the sheep until a stranger struck him a severe blow with a stick. The dog at once pounced upon him and bit him badly. The dog was again smuggled off, and the next time he turns up in the great Northwest, where, after guarding a large flock of sheep faithfully for several months, he received a severe cut from a whip in the hands of a drunken rowdy. He at once sprang at him, but was called off before any great damage was done. The man was told to never again approach the dog, but some months later the man happened to be passing on horseback, when the dog sprang from the roadside straight at his throat ; but his horse happening to shy to one side, saved his life. This time the dog was destroyed.

A gentleman in Delaware says : " I can say without exaggeration that at least twenty dogs have been killed on my farm or in my barnyard by my dog Montague. He is a Spanish shepherd dog. His dimensions are nearly four feet from his eyes to the root of his tail, and two feet eight inches high over the shoulders. The natural instinct of this animal is to guard your sheep against wolves and dogs."

Mr. Trammer, in his work on the merinos, speaking of the Spanish flocks, says : " There is no driving of the flock ; that is a practice entirely unknown ; but the shepherd, when he wishes to remove his sheep, calls to him a tame wether accustomed to feed from his hands. The favorite, however distant, obeys his call, and the rest follow. One or more of the dogs, with large collars armed with spikes, in order to protect them from the wolves, precede the flock, others skirt it on each side, and some bring up the rear. If a sheep be ill or lame, or lag behind unobserved by the shepherds, they will stay with it and defend it until some one

return in search of it. With us, dogs are often used for other and worse purposes. In open, unenclosed districts, they are indispensable; but in others I wish them, I confess, either managed, or encouraged less. If a sheep commits a fault in the sight of an intemperate shepherd, or accidentally offends him, it is *dogged* into obedience; the signal is given, the dog obeys the mandate, and the poor sheep flies around the field to escape from the fangs of him who should be his protector, until it becomes half dead with fright and exhaustion, while the trembling flock crowd together dreading the same fate, and the churl exults in this cowardly victory over a weak and defenceless animal."\*

We will not enter into particulars regarding the Mexican sheep-dog. Suffice it to say, he is descended from the Spanish shepherd dog, and, while being very much smaller in size, he is very intelligent in his business of watching herds and flocks. Whenever sheep hear a dog that is accustomed to hound them every day, they will immediately start from their grazing, gather together and run to the farthest fence, and press upon each other in order to escape the dog. With lambs, after they are weaned, it is apt to overheat them and induce palpitation; with ewes, it is apt to cause abortion, and among wethers, puts them off their feeding for a time. Should the farmer take all these things into consideration he would attach more importance to the good temper of both the shepherd and the dog than he has been accustomed to do. When the sheep, instead of collecting round the dog and placing themselves under his protection on any sudden alarm, fly from him with terror, the farmer may be assured there is something radically wrong in the management of his flock. Instinct and education combine to fit this dog for our service. He will, if he has the example of an older and expert one, almost without the teaching of the master, become everything that can be desired—obedient to every order, even to the slightest motion of the hand. It is a natural predisposition for the office he has to fill, which it requires little trouble or skill to develop and perfect. If he is but with his master, he is content, indifferent to every surrounding object;

---

\* Trammer on the Merinos, p. 50.

seemingly half asleep and half awake ; rarely mingling with his kind, and generally shrinking from the notice of strangers ; but the moment duty calls, his sleepy, listless eye becomes brightened, he eagerly gazes on his master, inquires and comprehends all he has to do, and, springing up, gives himself to the discharge of his duty with a sagacity and fidelity too rarely equaled even by man himself.

Buffon gives an eloquent and faithful account of the sheep-dog : “ This animal, faithful to man, will always preserve a portion of his empire and a degree of superiority over other beings. He reigns at the head of his flock, and makes himself better understood than the voice of the shepherd. Safety, order and discipline are the fruits of his vigilance and activity. They are a people submitted to his management, whom he conducts and protects, and against whom he never employs force but for the preservation of good order. If we consider that this animal, notwithstanding his ugliness and his wild and melancholy look, is superior in instinct to all others ; that he has a decided character in which education has comparatively little share ; that he is the only animal born perfectly trained for the service of others ; that, guided by natural powers alone, he applies himself to the care of our flocks, a duty which he executes with singular assiduity, vigilance and fidelity ; that he conducts them with an admirable intelligence which is a part and portion of himself ; that his sagacity astonishes at the same time that it gives repose to his master, while it requires great time and trouble to instruct other dogs for the purposes to which they are destined—if we reflect on these facts, we shall be confirmed in the opinion that the shepherd’s dog is the true dog of nature, the stock and model of the whole species.” \*

Taplin, in the *Sportman’s Cabinet*, published in 1803, devotes several pages to a description of the shepherd’s dog. He says : “ Constitutionally calm, patient and philosophic, the sheep-dog appears totally lost to every appearance of novelty, and insensible to every attraction beyond the protection and indefatigable preservation of the flock committed to his charge. In the most sequestered

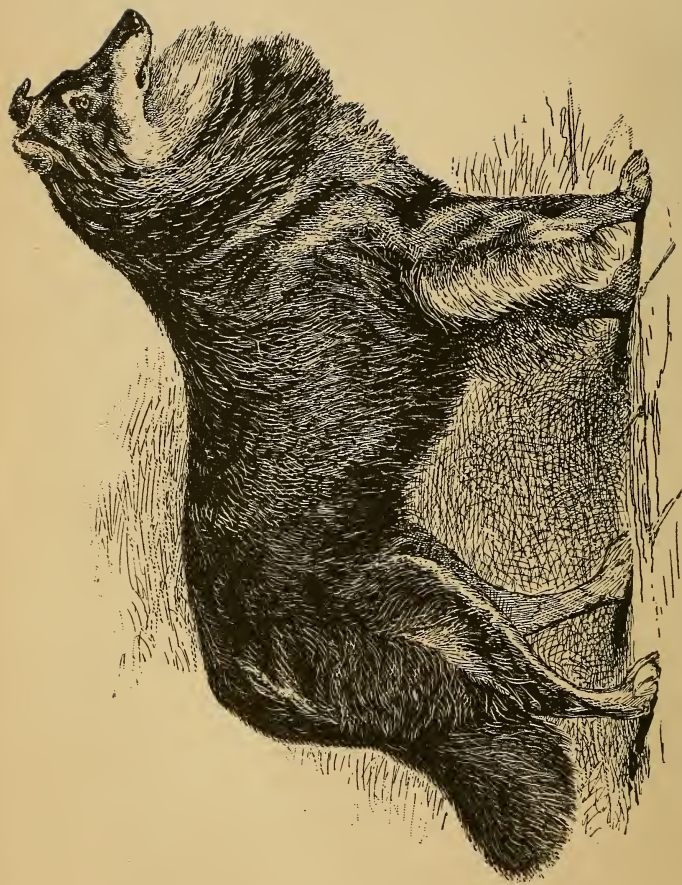
---

\* Buffon’s “ Natural History,” Vol. V., p. 314.

and remote spots, dreary wilds and lofty mountains, almost inaccessible to man, the dog become an incredible and trusty substitute ; for, once initiated into the groundwork of his office, he soon acquires a perfect knowledge of the extent of his walk, as well as of every individual of his flock ; and will as regularly select his own, and disperse obtruders, as the most faithful and attentive shepherd in existence. This becomes the more extraordinary to the contemplative mind, when it is recollected what immense flocks are seen to cover the downy hills of Hants and Wilts, as far as the eye can reach, without control ; and to know that by a signal from the shepherd this faithful, sagacious animal, replete with energy, vigilance and activity, will make his circle so as to surround a flock of hundreds, and bring them within any compass that may be required."







**ROUGH-COATED BLACK-AND-TAN COLLIE, CHAMPION "RUTLAND" (K.C.S.B. 13,948).**

## CHAPTER III.

### THE FASHIONABLE COLLIE.

“ Pat him on the head and say, ‘ Hector, ma mon ! ’ and he whines wi’ joy ; snap your thooms, and he gangs dancin’ round ye like a whurlwund ; gie a whusslin’ hiss, and he louns frantic ower your head ; cry halloo ! and he’s aff like a shot, chasin’ naething, as if he were mad.”

— *Wilson, Noctes Ambrosianæ.*

As far as my observation extends, I find there are in the United States five different kinds of shepherd dogs—the Scotch collie, the German, Spanish and Mexican, also the bob-tailed English sheep-dog. Of these, the Scotch collie is regarded as the best, and is most known. His place of nativity is among the moors, fens, glens and hills of Scotland, where the clannishness of the master is so pronounced that even the dogs refuse to make friends with the stranger who stops to share their porridge and shelter for the night. His only companions are the sheep upon the hillside, among whom he stalks with an air of conscious protection and guardianship. Throughout the northwest many mongrel collies are to be seen, mainly a bull and collie cross. As a result, an old sow or a grown hog rarely has a whole ear, the ears having been split and torn off by mongrel dogs. Send one of these so-called collies after a cow, and ninety-nine times out of a hundred he will go at the head instead of at the heels ; not but what some of the genuine article will do the same thing, but this is from lack of proper training and can be remedied at will.

The origin and history of the collie is obscured in the mists of the past. None of the old writers with whom I am acquainted gives a description that could be applied to the collie of to-day. Although many writers give their opinion, all are more or less left to conjecture. Dr. Alexander Stewart, a Scotchman, says the col-

lie is "the old indigenous dog of the British Islands." In referring to Fingal's dog Bran, he says he was "just an exceptionally strong and intelligent collie; nor would it be easy to persuade me that the faithful Argus of Ulyssus, in far-off Ithaca, three thousand years ago, was other than a genuine collie of the same breed as the Fingalians more than a thousand years afterwards in the hunting-grounds of medieval Scotland and Ireland." If Dr. Stewart's theory is correct, this collie would be identical with the collie of to-day. We have proof of the early Irish possessing hounds and spaniels, also a description of the greyhound written nearly two thousand years ago, but, so far as we know, no dog of the description of the collie, or even resembling him enough to enable us to form a correct idea of the breed from which he descended. This, however, does not prove that the collie was not in existence, for in ancient times few breeds save those used in the chase were deemed worthy of notice. My opinion in regard to the collie's origin is, that he is the result of careful selections systematically carried on through a long series of years until the desired results were obtained.

In sagacity he excels all others of the dog family. His is not the intelligence of the trick dog; one look into his bright, wise eyes will tell you that antics and pranks are not for him, a dog's life is to him quite too serious a matter to be wasted in frivolities; his mission is hard work; he has duties to perform, as had generations of his ancestors before him. Indeed, certain parts of Scotland and England owe all their value for sheep-raising purposes to the collie. "Without him," wrote Hogg, the Etrick shepherd, "the mountainous land of Scotland and England would not be worth six pence. It would require more hands to manage a flock of sheep, gather them from the hills, force them into houses and folds, and drive them to market, than the profits of the whole are capable of maintaining." Collies are valued very highly in their native country, and the highest praise a Scotch shepherd can pass on a collie is that he is "gey wyse"; *i. e.*, very wise. Mr. Hogg says that "a single shepherd and his dog will accomplish more in gathering a flock of sheep from a Highland farm than twenty shepherds could do without dogs; in fact, that without this docile an-

imal, pastoral life would be a mere blank. He it is that earns the family bread of which he is himself content with the smallest morsel, always grateful and always ready to exert his utmost abilities in his master's interests. Neither hunger, fatigue nor the worst treatment will drive him from his side, and he will follow him through every hardship without murmuring or repining. If one of them is obliged to change masters, it is sometimes long before he will acknowledge his new owner or condescend to work for him with the willingness that he did for his former lord; but if he once acknowledges him, he continues attached to him until death.'\*

We have a touching instance of the love existing between the shepherd and his dog in the simple tale of the shepherd Colin and his dog Tray. Both were old and feeble, and Tray, dying, licked Colin's hand. The sorrow of the old shepherd on the death of his favorite is well described by Peter Pindar, who tells us—

“Not long after Tray did the shepherd remain,  
 Who oft o'er his grave with true sorrow would bend;  
 And when dying thus feebly was heard the poor swain,  
 ‘Oh, bury me, neighbors, beside my poor friend.’”

Well may the owner feel an interest in his shepherd dog. He is the only dog on the farm that earns his bread. Among dogs I do not believe there are more than three or four breeds which pay in dollars and cents for their keep, and among these few breeds not one in a dozen is anything but a nuisance. Well-trained collies are not only of great value as a breed, but ninety-five per cent. of the individuals are worth to their owners in cash from ten to one hundred dollars per year. In fact, the value of a well-trained collie on a large sheep ranch can not be estimated by dollars and cents. In a letter I received from a gentleman a few weeks since, he says a well-trained collie is worth more to him than a man on horseback.

In the wild moorlands of Scotland, abounding in deep, treacherous morasses, and visited by pitiless storms of snow, the service of

---

\*“The Ettrick Shepherd has probably spoken somewhat too enthusiastically of his dog; but accounts of the sagacity and almost superhuman fidelity of this dog crowd so rapidly upon us that we are compelled to admire and to love him.”—Hogg's “Shepherd's Calendar,” Vol. II., p. 308.

the collie is almost indispensable, and they sometimes have most arduous duties to perform. The hardy, black-faced sheep that have existed on the bleak mountains of Scotland for centuries, are frequently lost and completely buried in drifts of snow, where they often remain for several days. The sagacious collie is found very useful in locating them in the snowdrifts. With his keen scent he will locate a sheep in several feet of snow.

Sir Walter Scott, who knew pastoral life so well, gives in his introduction to "Marmion," Canto IV., the following poetic yet accurate description of the life of the Scotch shepherd :

"The sounds that drive wild deer and fox  
To shelter in the brake and rocks,  
Are warnings which the shepherd ask  
To dismal and to dangerous task.  
Oft he looks forth, and hopes in vain  
The blast may sink in mellowing rain;  
Till, dark above and white below,  
Decided drives the flaky snow,  
And forth the hardy swain must go.  
Long, with dejected look and whine,  
To leave the hearth his dogs repine;  
Whistling and cheering them to aid,  
Around his back he wreathes the plaid;  
And, facing to the tempest's sweep,  
Drives through the gloom his lagging sheep."

Mr. Hogg draws the following curious parallel between the collie sheep-dog and the cottager's collie: "An exceedingly good sheep-dog attends to nothing but the particular branch of business to which he is bred. His whole capacity is exerted and exhausted in it, and he is of little avail in miscellaneous matters; whereas a very indifferent dog, bred about the house, and accustomed to assist in everything, will often put the more noble breed to disgrace in these little services. If some one calls out that the cows are in the corn or the hens in the garden, the house collie needs no other hint, but runs and turns them out. The shepherd's dog knows not what is astir, and, if he is called out in a hurry for such work, all that he will do is to run to the hill, or rear himself on his haunches to see that no sheep are running away. A well-bred sheep-dog, if coming hungry from the hills, and getting into a



milk-house, would likely think of nothing else than filling his belly with the cream. In fact, he seems to think that is the only way in which he can collect his wages for the work he does ; so steal he will, without a quiver of the eye or a cessation of wag to his tail. Therefore we caution the good housewife to look sharp that the door to the milk-house is securely closed, or there will be sorrow in the household—and very likely to the dog. Not so his initiated brother: he is bred at home to far higher principles of honor. I have known such lie night and day among from ten to twenty pails full of milk, and never once break the cream of one of them with the tip of his tongue, nor would he suffer cat, rat, or any other creature, to touch it.”

Since the institution of bench shows, there has been too great a tendency to breed for type alone, and too little care to preserve the working instinct, and, as a consequence, some winners at the shows are of slight use as drivers. The show collie, being untrained, is losing intelligence, and a good judge can readily distinguish the untrained dog from the intelligent and well taught, by the fatuous look the idle life of the former develops. The breeding for show alone is having a deteriorating influence on the collie. I think the placing of dogs, which breeders have improved in appearance for exhibition, in the hands of our working shepherds who are scattered over our lonely hillsides and prairies, and the drafting of clever, good-looking, practical working dogs from the shepherds to recruit the stock of exhibitors, might prove of mutual benefit to both. The *English Kennel Gazette* says: “Fanciers, locust-like, appear to have settled on the collie, and have recently determined that a collie shall have an enormous head, an enormous coat, and enormous limbs, and that by these three ‘points’ shall he stand or fall in the judging-ring; so they have commenced to graft on to the breed the jaw of an alligator, the coat of an Angora goat, and the clumsy bone of a St. Bernard. A ‘cobby’ dog with short neck, straight thick shoulders, hollow back, and small straight tail, but graced with a very long snout and a very heavy jacket, is already common at our shows, and increases and multiplies. In the advertising columns of the doggy papers can be read the exultation of the ‘collie-fancier’ at his pet’s ‘immense bone,’ ‘enormous



coat,' and so on. I therefore think it high time that the public be reminded of what a collie was formerly, and what the Collie Club's recognized standard says that he ought to be even now. First of all, the collie is intended for use, for definite work, and, as soon as we find ourselves breeding dogs that can not gallop, jump, 'rough it,' aye! and *think*, too, we may be certain that, whatever we may have got hold of, it is not a sheep-dog; and with the disappearance of his workmanlike attributes vanish also his social virtues and his beauty. But let us consider a few of his points—those which are in more immediate danger of being misunderstood—in detail. The under-coat, without doubt, should be very thick and furry, and the outer coat also should be well developed. But an excessive length and weight of it can only be a hindrance to the dog's movements. The skull should be flat and rather broad, because brain room is required, a greyhound skull being manifestly a foolish one. The collie's muzzle should be fine and tapering, because, though the dog may be required occasionally to 'nip' a sheep to make it move, a severe wound would be calamitous; a greyhound-jaw is designed for killing. As to general shape, the collie should be a lightly built dog, of medium size, wonderfully active, wiry in his movements, free and sweeping in his form, that he may be able to go at racing pace over rough ground, and jump any obstacles in his path. He must have long, oblique shoulders, deep, narrow chest, loin somewhat arched, a fair length of leg, with a fair amount of oval-shaped bone, and perfect balance everywhere. As he should show no relationship to the greyhound in skull or jaw, so, also, should he be free from trace of setter in ear and tail. The former should be small and semi-erect, but a prick-ear is preferable to one carried on the cheek; the latter should be carried low, but should be long and have the 'upward swirl' at the end."

The coat of the collie is of great importance and one of the special characteristics of the breed. The outer coat consists of long, thin hair of coarse texture, and the under-coat of very thick, close, soft hair, which in black dogs is of a light color, often showing through the thin outer coat; the two together are impermeable to rain. On the jaw, face, skull, and on the front and inside of legs,

the hair is short and smooth, but from the angle of the jaw and round immediately at the back of the skull it is very long, and round the throat it turns upwards and forwards, and round the neck and throat forms a decided ruff or frill. On the whole of the body the coat stands well out because of the abundance of the under-coat. It should not be curly, but present a level and flat appearance. The hair on the hams and tail is long and very abundant. There are also smooth-coated collies, the hair being short and thick and very weather-resisting, for the collie's duties compel him to be out on the windy moors and bleak hillsides in all kinds of weather, and "to bide the pelting of the pitiless storm" when—

“The shepherd shifts his mantle fold,  
And wraps him closer from the cold;  
His dogs no merry circles wheel,  
But shivering follow at his heel;  
A covering glance they often cast,  
As deeper moans the gathering blast.”

The collie's coat depends entirely upon climate and the circumstances in life in which he is placed. In southern latitudes the rough-coated will breed back to smooth coat in four generations, unless there are frequent importations made. The poet Burns describes the color of the collie as black and white. Bingley (1809) also colors his collies black and white, and that is about as far back as we can get in regard to color. All of the drawings and colorings are so faithful in Bingley that we must rely upon black and white being the original color. In the early days of dog shows the black and tan color was very fashionable. It is thought by some that this is the true original color of the collie; others affirm the black and tan color was produced or improved by crossing the collie with the black and tan, or Gordon setter. Mr. Wm. Arkwright says: "It is an open secret that just before this period the shepherds on the Scotch hills, admiring the fervid coloring of the Gordon setters brought near them in the shooting season, had begun to use these dogs to their collie bitches whenever they got a chance. Hence those setter characteristics were to be observed in the show collies of the day, which continue to predominate in many parts of

the Highlands to the present time. But the collie lovers, whether from inspection of old pictures or from evolution of inner consciousness, after a time became distrustful of the sunset beauties of 'tan,' and the ear which might afterwards serve as a saddle-flap, and commenced to reform the show-dog judiciously enough. But just at this transition period, when men's opinions were thoroughly unhinged, there appeared in our midst a dog of chestnut-bronze color, called 'Vero.' Every one raved about the animal. His color, besides the charm of novelty, was æsthetically beautiful; his head, though effeminate, was good, and his ears were small and well carried; beyond these points, there was not much to praise in him. 'Vero's' own career was that of the meteor, brilliant but brief—he emerged from obscurity and disappeared whence he came; but the appetite for those harmonious, ruddy shadings was excited by him, and has since not known satiety. With marvelous quickness came pouring in the red collie from all sides to supply the demand, and as soon as the task of judging became more difficult from there being more of this complexion than prizes in the classes, semi-erect ears, a crafty face and a thick coat were the additional qualities sought for. Such was the infancy of the modern type, which fills the classes with ever-increasing numbers."

Our opinion in regard to this crossing is, that the contrary was the case, and that the black and tan, or Gordon setter, has been greatly improved by being judiciously crossed with the Highland sheep-dog, and we have numerous instances in which the collie sheep-dog has been introduced into sporting kennels for stud purposes. About eighty years ago a gentleman, in order to improve his hunting dogs, paid £20 (\$100) for a collie, which at that time was considered a very high price for a sheep-dog. Rawdon Lee, in his book on the collie, says: "My opinion is that no variety of dog in the British Isles can boast of purer blood, or possibly blood so pure as that of the collie." Hugh Dalziel, in his history of the collie, also alludes to the setter cross. He tells the story of the Scotch shepherd on the hillside falling in love with "Idstone's" Gordon setters, and saying he would "like a cross o' yin o' them wi' his collie, for they would throw unco brow whalps." Dalziel evidently does not believe in the alleged cross, for he says: "O Id-

stone ! Idstone ! how could you let my countryman draw the white feather over your eyes so ? The 'pawky auld carle' had ulterior designs on your whisky flask, and was not unmindful of the proverb, 'Love me, love my dog ;' but a shepherd who would make such a proposition in earnest is not fit to take care of a hirsel." The collie's usefulness is too well known, and his services too highly valued, to admit of experiments in crossing which would doubtless spoil him for the work for which he is required, and for which, in his present state, he is so well adapted. We believe the collie to be a pure and distinct breed, and will continue to be so.

At present a majority of the noted champion collies are of sable color, still that grand old black and tan champion of England, Rutland, is able to hold his own against new-comers. Although color is not valued so highly in this breed as in some others, there is usually one which is the prevailing fashion. At the present time the large kennels in this country are trying to produce white collies by close inbreeding of the light-colored ones, but most of them have dark ears or spots on the body. Although pure white collies are scarcely to be desired, they may possibly become the fashion from the fact that a pure white puppy has been presented to Queen Victoria. The Queen has always been a great lover of dogs, and has done more to foster a kindly and humane feeling towards dumb animals than any reigning monarch in the world. The white collie referred to was bred by Messrs. J. and W. H. Charles, of Warwickshire, England. His sire, "The Squire," and his dam, "Betty," are of the most fashionable pedigree.

In general appearance the collie, as a breed, is clear and distinct from any other breed of our domestic dogs. His motion or action ought to be that of the wolf or fox, as light upon his feet as though his muscles were springs of steel, his glances as sharp and animated as flashes of lightning. He should be light and graceful, giving the idea of great speed capacity, and altogether a handsome dog—one that poets have celebrated in their verse and artists loved to paint. Sir Walter Scott and the immortal Burns make frequent mention of them. The great masterpiece of the artist Landseer, called "The Old Shepherd's Chief Mourner," represents a collie sitting in a dejected attitude, his chin resting lovingly on the coffin.

which encloses the remains of his master. The collie's bearing is dainty and natty, as that of the fox. Nor does the likeness end there. Take the human-like intelligence ascribed to the hero of the old romance, Reynard the Fox—let the craft and duplicity be refined and transmuted into devotion to his master, and you have the characteristics of the collie's nature.

The clever, cunning appearance of the collie should be due as much to the expression of the eye as to the shape of the head, as the Esquimaux dog has an air of cunning (but villainous cunning) in his oblique eyes. The cunning and craftiness of the collie is of a superior order, and displays considerable reasoning power. The nearer he comes to moving like a fox and looking like a wolf, the nearer you will approach the dog found among the sheep of Scotland. The disposition of the collie is as marked as his physical characteristics. Some of the writers upon dogs who wish us to think they know everything about every breed of dog, tell us that the collie is of a cross and surly disposition. This is a falsehood; he is all kindness and affection. Put a dog of any breed out upon a desolate stretch of pasture, day after day and month after month, and when approached by a stranger he will manifest his suspicion and mistrust. But let a collie be placed in the same walks of life as other dogs, and he will far exceed them in general aptitude and intelligence. For the use of the farm, it will be conceded by all this is the distinctively appropriate breed.

A well-trained and experienced collie appears to rule a flock of sheep by force of his dominant nature, just as a good horseman controls a horse. He is often equally successful in managing unruly cattle, and sometimes exercises the same supremacy over other dogs. Dr. Lewis says: "The increased vigor that is now given to the cultivation of sheep to supply the necessary demands of the numerous woolen factories springing up in every quarter, renders the services of this faithful creature absolutely indispensable, not only as a guardian of the flocks, but as a mere expedient of economy. Many portions of our country, now lying idle, particularly the mountainous ranges, are peculiarly adapted for the grazing of sheep, and we are destined not only to supply the world with cotton, but may hope ere long to add to our national wealth the other equally valuable staple commodity, that of wool."



In Australia the shepherds delight in having well-bred dogs, and devote immense care and patience to their education. Their animals are all more or less collies (called, by the way, in the bush, coolies), very often come of good imported strains, and are often exceedingly handsome and clever. Mr. M. Roberts, writing to the London *Field* in regard to dogs in Australia, says: "I have seen many decent horses sold for less than the price of a sheep-dog of any reputation. I have heard £15 asked for a thoroughly trained, well-bred bitch who was exceptionally clever. The training of pups usually commences as soon as they are able to walk. In the bush, being naturally on a sheep station, they see their future charges every day, and frequently watch the elder dogs working. It is amusing to note the instinct showing itself at a very early stage; a young puppy of mine, called Bo'sun, voluntarily took charge of a small mob of rams, having previously had no experience at all, and I have frequently seen similar instances. The things the older dogs do verge sometimes on the marvelous. I remember, when mustering the sheep on Dora Station, a very beautiful bitch, owned by a man in the place, brought, with a young puppy of her own, a large number of sheep to the meeting-place and then disappeared. I asked her owner where she was, and he answered that he did not know, but that she would probably turn up directly. In half an hour we saw a small flock of about 250 coming down a gully on to the little plain, and behind them was Flo. She had noticed them in the distance when bringing down the others, but evidently distrusted her son's capabilities of managing the large flock. She was quite ready to take charge of any number for hours together, and we could be quite sure none would stray while she was about. There was no other dog on the station who knew it as she did; indeed, though it was a mass of hills, she seemed acquainted with every gulch about it. Yet I admired the dogs even more on the great plains in the Lachlan Back Blocks, where sheep were numbered in tens and hundreds of thousands. Few people in this country have ever seen 20,000 sheep together, and can scarcely imagine what a space of country they cover when they are being slowly driven along at a rate which permits them to feed. Yet my own dog Sancho, at Mossiel,



would handle so many with the greatest ease ; indeed, the more they were the better he seemed pleased. As a matter of fact, I must acknowledge he was not much good with a very small number. But when I was riding on an endless plain, with the flock spreading out two miles, he would watch for me to wave my hand when all shouting was useless by distance. When he was so far off that I could not distinguish him, I knew well that he was looking out for the signal of a fluttering handkerchief to the right or left, and that he could discern a different motion which meant 'That will do.' When the flock was set in the right direction, he would make a long bend to come to me, and without any orders keep each wing up, first going half a mile to the left and then as far to the right."

The collie is one of the coming dogs in America. If he were better known, and his usefulness on the farm were more widely appreciated, he would soon supplant the curs of low degree ; and as a faithful, intelligent, almost human guardian, he would watch over and attend flocks of sheep in districts where now, because of the midnight forages of mutton-hungry mongrels, sheep can not be raised. They are pre-eminently the farmer's dog, but if any one is in need of a faithful, intelligent servant or companion, let him get a collie. His chief charm as a companion is his great affection and strong attachment. They are ever anxious to please, which is shown by the way they watch every look and motion and listen to every word by which they may interpret their master's wishes, and the readiness with which they obey. The collie soon adapts himself to his surroundings, and, whether we find him galloping on the vast ranges of Australia, or busy working among the glittering rocks and trackless deserts of the West, or in more fashionable life gently walking in the bustling thoroughfares of our great cities, or, perhaps, sedately promenading the avenues with his master's family, he seems to be just as happy in his new abode as in his native home on the northern hills, amid fern and heather, with a bed in the corner of his master's plaid, left hanging loose for the purpose.

The collie is to-day the most fashionable dog in England, and is fast becoming fashionable in this country. The importation,

breeding and sale of this variety of dog has grown into an extensive business. Several hundred choice specimens have been imported; the collie classes at the bench shows have been creditably filled and have shown that the breed is rapidly growing in numbers and quality.

In closing my remarks upon this breed of dog, I recommend him most heartily to the consideration of the reader. I do not speak from hearsay, or from knowledge derived from books, but from practical experience, having owned collies for nearly a dozen years. The only faults you will find in the collie will arise from his extreme restlessness and activity. He will drive the chickens, he will stand guard over the geese, he will be here one minute and there the next, looking into this corner and poking his nose into that, forever on the move; in fact, among all breeds of dogs he can truthfully be nicknamed the "policeman," as his eyes are forever looking into everything, but at the same time he is not at all too headlong in getting into a scrimmage. Lovers of the poet Burns will enjoy these lines, descriptive of a typical collie, his own dog, Luath:

" He was a gash and faithful tyke  
As ever lap a sleugh or dyke;  
His honest, sonsie, bawns'nt face  
Aye gat him friends in ilka place;  
His breast was white, his touzie back  
Weel clad wi' coat o' glossy black;  
His gawsie tail wi' upward curl  
Hung ower his hurdies wi' a swirl."

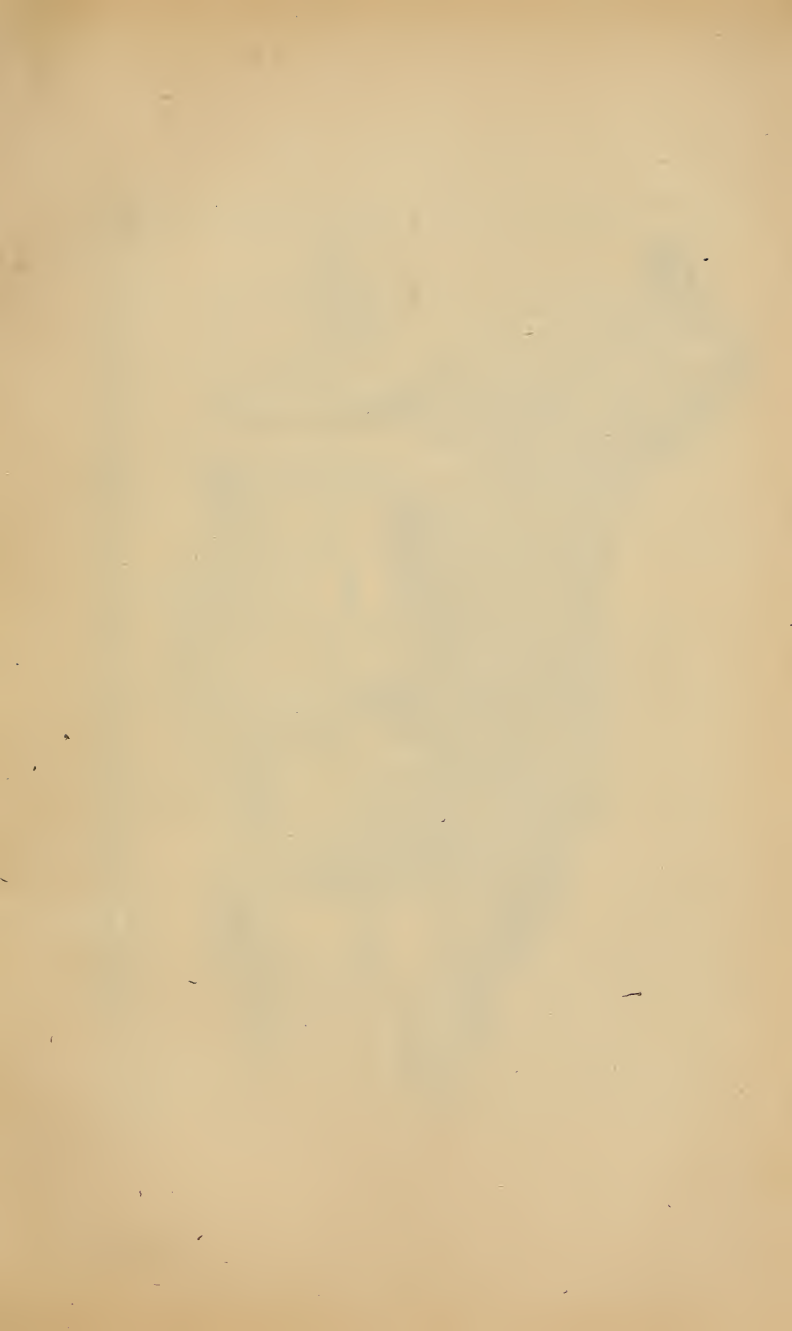
#### DESCRIPTION OF ILLUSTRATIONS—SENSATIONAL PRICES.

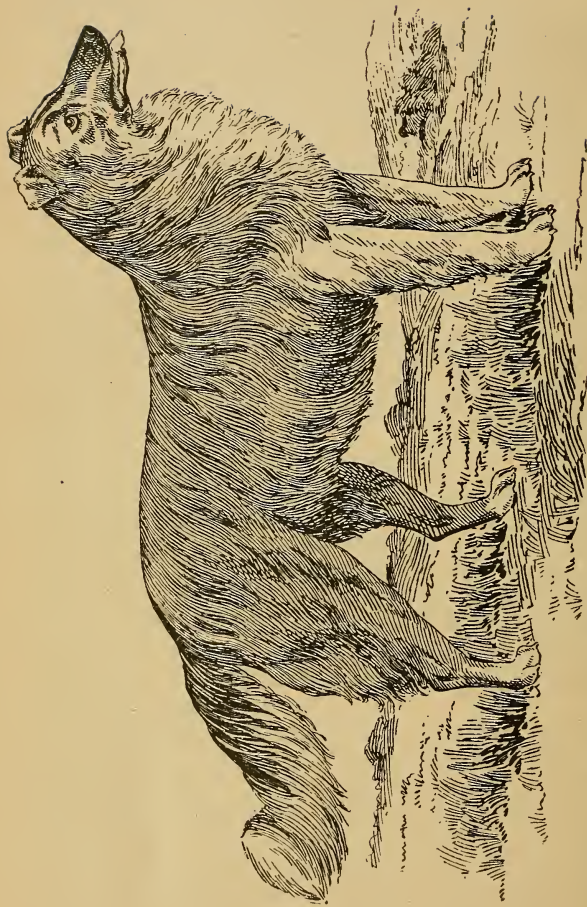
The well-known Charlemagne, represented in frontispiece, is considered by many good judges to be the best collie of all times. His successes at the stud have been quite equal to that of any collie that either preceded or has followed him. He commands the highest stud fee ever paid for a collie, viz.: \$100, and is valued at \$50,000, which is not merely a fictitious value, for his income in the stud more than equals that amount. Extremely high bids have been made for Charlemagne, and dogs of much the same blood have been claimed at what must be considered extraordi-

nary figures. Charlemagne is sable and white in color, with evenly placed and well-carried ears, and bright and intelligent in expression. He won the sixty-guinea challenge cup at the show held in Holborn, February, 1890. The old veteran was over eleven years old, and, it is said, looked more like his grandsire, Cockie, than ever. Almost all the best collies of the present day are descended from old Cockie, who was considered the best dog of his day.

Our next illustration is an exact likeness of that grand old English champion collie, Rutland. He is a splendid specimen of the black and tan color, of beautiful formation, and possessing all the attributes of a show-dog. He is the winner of over twenty-five champion prizes and sixteen cups, and is already the sire of nearly one hundred first-prize winners. Rutland is a dog of that class that the more you look at him the better you are pleased. On his sire's side he has a double strain of the famous old Cockie; on the other side, his pedigree traces back—as so many show-dogs do—to Mr. S. E. Shirley's kennels, through Tricolor, a younger brother of the more celebrated Trifol, who is to the collie what Rysdyk's Hambletonian was to the high-bred trotting horse. The name of Trifol, says an authority, will ever be known as the source from whence sprung the modern typical fancy collie. Rutland, who was given away when a puppy, and afterwards sold at auction for \$12.50, was eventually sold for the sum of \$1,250. His head, ears and general form are first-class, and these, with his other good qualities, he in many cases transmits to his progeny, and Rutland blood is still in great demand.

The illustration on page 70 is that of the celebrated sable-colored collie champion, Eclipse (E. K. C. S. B. 12949), owned by Mr. G. R. Krehl, London, England. He was claimed at Birmingham show, when a puppy, at the catalogue price of \$500, which was then considered a very high price, but he proved to his owner a financial success. Eclipse is a handsome dog of great intelligence and lovely disposition, and no one need desire a nicer dog as a companion and household pet, for which purpose the collie has gradually drifted to our great commercial centers. Eclipse is one of the most typical collies ever bred, and unequalled as a stud dog.





**REV. HANS HAMILTON'S ROUGH-COATED COLLIE, "PEGGIE II." (E.K.C.S.B. 12,995).  
Sire, Ruthvin (E.K.C.S.B. 10,717); Dam, Madge (E.K.C.S.B. 10,746).**

The *English Kennel Gazette* says: "It is remarkable that his progeny are all of sable color, no matter what the color of the dam may be."

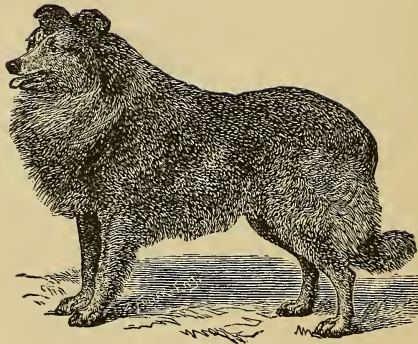
The Rev. Hans Hamilton's sable and white collie, Peggie II. (of which an engraving appears on opposite page), is the dam of bench-show winners, and is particularly noted as being the dam of champion Christopher, who was placed over his sire, Mitchley Wonder, for the challenge prize, at the Liverpool show in February, 1890. He was afterwards purchased for American kennels for \$3,500 in cash, and two other noted champion collies, valued at \$750 each, so it can be said that the immense sum of \$5,000 was paid for this handsome son of Peggie II. This is the highest price ever paid for a non-sporting dog excepting for a St. Bernard, and such a price has never been paid for a sporting dog excepting the English greyhound.

The noted bench-show winner, Mitchley Wonder, referred to above, is said to have been sold by Mr. Boddington for \$2,650.

Caractacus, another noted collie, created quite a sensation in the canine world in 1888. He was at the time nine months old, and was on exhibition at the Liverpool show, where he won first prize in the puppy class and was claimed by several gentlemen at the catalogue price, \$500. This being the case, the dog was put up at auction and became the property of Mr. Megson, of Manchester, but not until the immense sum of \$1,750 had been bid for him.

These prices, which are now quite common, would have been considered by our forefathers fabulous sums to pay for what in their day was oftentimes refused as a gift. American breeders have from time to time purchased some of the best collie blood of England and Scotland, which is greatly improving the breed in this country. At the first exhibition of the Westminster Kennel Club, held in New York in 1870, only eight collies were entered. From this date the increase has been steady, until, in February, 1890, the entries reached 117. And a grand lot they were, having improved in quality as well as increased in number.





**Sable-Colored Collie Champion, Eclipse (E. K. C. S. B. 12949).**

## CHAPTER IV.

### TRAINING SHEPHERD DOGS—HOUSE OR YARD TRAINING.

“Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well.”—*Dr. Johnson.*

When a dog becomes a member of civilized society he is doomed to undergo a more or less rigid course of instruction to educate him “in the way he should go.” His education may consist in teaching him as much as he is capable of learning, or merely in teaching him the things necessary to make him a good house or watch dog. The shepherd dog is a wonderfully intelligent animal, and can be trained to his work to a degree that it seems to be gifted with almost human intelligence. It is some work to train a shepherd dog. No animal will perform duties that require special intelligence without special training. Of course they inherit a “talent.” The laws of heredity operate wonderfully. Miles cites many instances. The shepherd dog is remarkable for its sagacity and the persistence with which it carries out the wishes of its master; and it would be difficult, if not impossible, to train dogs of any other breeds to equal them in their special duties. The dispositions of dogs remain true to their natural instincts, and, though now and again a specimen of one variety may perform duties which essentially are those of another breed, the broad fact remains that the original race are, as a whole, vastly to be preferred for the work. The greyhound still hunts by sight as in the days of Arrian, and the bloodhound by scent, and their offspring all inherit the same peculiarities. Both the foxhound and setter have the quality of acute scent, but the foxhound pays no attention to the bird track, while the setter does not notice the fox track. The difference has been bred into these two breeds of dogs by the intelligence of their breeders for a century or more. Cross these breeds, and

their special characteristics are spoiled. Mongrels do not and can not possess the intelligence of the thoroughbred.

It is a matter of much more difficulty and importance to learn *how* to train a sheep-dog than to discover *what* he should be taught. The collie is controlled not only by instinct, but by a higher intelligence, which, when properly developed, often enables it to meet emergencies for which mere instinct would be entirely inadequate. It should therefore be the purpose of the teacher to train the mental faculties of the pupil, to give him a liberal education, rather than to teach him a series of automatic tricks. The first step is to secure the respect and affection of the pupil, so that he will be anxious to anticipate his master's demands, and to do his bidding. Kindness and imperturbable patience are virtues the teacher must exercise. He should persist in his efforts until the pupil thoroughly understands what is required of him, and he ought never to be punished to compel him to learn, or for failing to do what he does not understand, but only for refusing to do what he already thoroughly knows. The cruelties that are perpetrated on puppies during the course of their education, or *breaking-in*, are sometimes infamous. Young dogs, like young people, must be to a certain degree coerced; but these animals receive from nature so great an aptitude for learning, and practicing that which we require of them, and their own pleasure is so much connected with what they learn, that there is no occasion for one-tenth part of the correction that is occasionally inflicted; and the frequent consequence of the cruelty to which they are subjected is cowardice or ferocity during life.

Only one thing should be taught at a time, and not until it is thoroughly mastered should another be undertaken. The puppy should be shown, in the simplest way, what his master wants him to do, and the thing to be done should be associated in his mind with a very brief command, or, if possible, with a single word. You must have patience and devote time to it. Don't expect him to learn faster than a child could, with as limited a way of communicating ideas as exists between you and your pupil. A dog understands actions better than words, therefore you should use your hand in giving directions, and always take him with you and

let him see you do the work expected of him before you attempt to teach him to do it alone. You should always use the same word in giving the same order; thus you should not say bring, one time, and fetch, another. For different orders use as different sounding words as possible. When there is much difficulty in teaching the dog his lesson, the fault lies as often with the master as with him; or they are, generally speaking, both in fault. The majority of dogs are exceedingly sagacious. They possess strong reasoning powers; they understand, by intuition, almost every want and wish of their master, and they deserve the kindest and best usage.

Make as far as possible a friend and companion of the puppy, for the more he is with you, the handier he will be. You should select him when quite young, and engraft upon his nature obedience. If possible, give him a large yard on the ground, with a warm kennel or box in which to sleep. A part of the time he should have his liberty, that he may become accustomed to the stock and poultry. He should only be petted and fed by the hand of his master; all other members of the family should be strictly forbidden to cultivate his affections. By selecting him when young, before he has contracted any bad habits, it will be easier to train him. As soon as you have gained his affection, begin by teaching him a few simple things, which should be done in his yard, or it may be done in the house on winter evenings. It will be a pleasant pastime, and will be much easier for both master and pupil than putting him entirely uneducated to practical field work. He may be taught to "come," to "lie down," to "speak" and to jump "over." If he has thoroughly learned these things, and is obedient, your work will be greatly lessened when you take him into the field. The bitch is generally more acute in learning, though the dog will bear the greater fatigue. The quietly disposed shepherd mostly prefers the bitch, but is careful about working her when in pup. There are several modes of training—different ways of accomplishing the same end. I simply propose to suggest the plan that seems most simple to myself, which I have learned from my own experience and the suggestions of others.

The first thing is to teach him his name. If you intend to train him for work in the field, his name should be short, for long names

are hard to pronounce when rapid action is necessary. He should early be accustomed to the use of the collar and chain, as a long string attached to the pup's neck will often be of service in the course of his training; you can then check him if he is very high-lifted, as well as make him more easily acquainted with the language and various evolutions which are necessary in a well-trained shepherd dog. The collar should be a wide one, and should be worn several days before the chain is attached. The chain should have two or three swivels to prevent the links from kinking. You can attach a light chain to his collar, and let him run about his yard for a day or two; then you can take him out for a good run in the fields, following at a short distance and allowing him to roam at his own sweet will. In a day or two you can commence to regulate his actions. The restraint must be very slight at first; entice him along, and, if needs be, reward him with a piece of cracker or cheese whenever he ceases to strain and pull, and he will soon trot along like an old dog. There is nothing more unpleasant to see than a full-grown dog with his tail between his legs being dragged along by his master. It is best to give the puppy his first lesson in the yard to which he has been accustomed, as the irrepressible collie's eyes seem to be everywhere and his nose poking into everything, and strange surroundings are sure to attract his attention. Be sure to give him his lesson when you will be undisturbed, recollecting that the presence of company (man or dog) should be prohibited, that the puppy may give his full attention to his lesson without anything to distract his attention. His first lesson should be to "come in." To teach him the words "come in," you should use it on all occasions when a short distance from you. You may use it when you call him to feed him; you may also let him accompany you in a walk, having a small cord twenty to thirty foot long attached to his collar. Should he run too far ahead, check him, and cry "Come in!" If he pays little attention to the summons, draw him in rather roughly by the cord, at the same time crying "Come in!"

Your pupil's next lesson is to "lie down." He is made to understand this by gently forcing him down, keeping his hind legs well up under him, extending his fore legs, and forcing his head

gently between them, crying "Lie down!" Put him in as natural a position as possible, always crying "Lie down!" and practice him in this position until he fully understands the command. Now, to make him drop at the word, you should cry "Lie down! Lie down!" with your hand upraised, gently forcing him into the required position, and by frequent practice you will soon have him drop at the word. When you wish him to rise, cry "Come in!" When your dog behaves well, never fail to encourage him with caresses. When he thoroughly understands the word "Lie down!" and will "lie down" at your command, you should bid him "Lie down," and go some distance from him. On the slightest inclination on the part of the dog to get up, you should go back, crying "Lie down!" Then again go a little distance from him, and continue this until you can go any distance from him, and he will continue to "lie down" until he receives the command "Come in!"

Having learned this lesson, we will proceed by teaching him to "speak." This will greatly add to his accomplishments, and will be needed later on when introduced into the field. Having provided yourself with a piece of beef, you can commence this lesson by holding it just out of his reach, at the same time teasing him with it, and bidding him "Speak!" After awhile, growing impatient in his desire for the meat, he will whine, when you should make a great ado and fuss, which will most likely make him bark; if it does not, imitate, as near as you can, the bark of a dog, which rarely fails of the desired results. At the slightest approach to a bark, he should be immediately rewarded with the meat. By persevering in this way, he will soon understand what you mean, and give a good bark. Do not expect to see a great deal of improvement from the early lessons. The dog will often forget that which was inculcated upon him a few hours before; but perseverance and kindness will effect much. The first lessons over, the dog, beginning to perceive a little what is meant, will cheerfully and joyfully do his duty. I usually begin my first lessons with the aid of beef, on account of the dog's great love for it, and because he is much more apt to learn his lessons for such a prize. Always perfect your pupil in one lesson before commencing an-



other, and do not tire him by continuing the lesson too long at a time. A puppy is naturally restless and hates restraint, and his education must be carried on slowly. There is one thing that can not be too forcibly impressed on the trainer of young puppies, and that is, never to use severity at this tender age. The majority of puppies are only too willing to do as you wish them when they understand what your wishes are; you should bear in mind he does not understand the language. We may as well give a child an order in an unknown tongue, and then punish him for not executing it, as to punish a puppy for not doing what he fails to understand. He should never be punished until he has age, and then only for willful disobedience.

When you introduce the dog to practical field work, you will find a whistle very convenient to call him when he is out of sight, and also out of hearing of the sound of your voice. To teach him this is a very simple thing, and can be done when he is quite young. When he is lying quietly asleep, give a shrill whistle, at the same time holding in your hand a piece of beef. He will immediately look up, startled at the sound, and, seeing the meat, will come to you, when the meat should be given him. After a time the meat may be omitted, and a kind word and gentle pat substituted.

We will take for our next lesson three terms—"Stop," "Steady," "Hie on." To commence, take a plate of beef, or such other food as he very much fancies, and place it before him. Of course, he evinces a great desire to "pitch in." You repress his ardor by putting on check cord, crying "Stop!" Of course, he does not understand the word, but every time he starts, check him with the cord, crying "Stop!" with emphasis. After repeated trials, he soon associates the word with the pull on the cord, and stops. After a few seconds, cry "Hie on!" at the same time gently forcing him toward the plate. "Hie on" he learns amazingly soon. A few such lessons, and the words are learned to be retained. The word "Steady" is now easily learned by making him approach the plate slowly, crying "Steady! Steady!" at short intervals. When near the plate, cry "Stop!" never permitting him to eat until you cry "Hie on!" He must understand

that he is to move cautiously by the oft-repeated command of "Steady!" "Steady" should not be used with the same emphasis as "Hie on."

Another term that will add to the accomplishments of the puppy, as well as save trouble in the field, is "Over," a command often necessary to make your dog cross fence. To teach him this, take a board a foot or more high, according to the age of the puppy, and place it so he can not get around it. Then take a piece of meat and throw it over the board, crying "Over!" He will most likely whine and try to go around the board, when you must push him gently towards it, crying "Over!" Of course he does not understand it, but his desire for the meat will cause him to jump over. After you have practiced him some time with the board, take a common stick or cane, and throw the meat over as before. On no account allow him to creep under, but raise the stick to suit the puppy's jumping powers, and insist on him jumping before getting the meat. As the puppy progresses in his lesson you can raise the stick a little higher, until you can get him to jump quite a distance. You can also practice him when you have him out with you, and have occasion to cross a fence, by getting over yourself and crying "Over!" This he will soon learn to do without other reward than the praises of his master.

Our puppy's last lesson in yard-training will be "to heel." To learn him in the shortest space of time, take a strong stick that will not bend, about three or four feet long, and of convenient size. To the end of this fasten a small harness snap. With this fastened into the ring of his collar, he can be held in the position you wish him to occupy as you walk along. Place him directly behind you, crying "Heel!" He will not like having to occupy this position, and may cause you some trouble, but be patient with him, bidding him be "Steady!" and he will by degrees get used to it. Do not keep him long in this position, but be sure he is "steady" before letting him loose. When you unfasten the snap from his collar, cry "Hie on!" This he will be sure to do with alacrity. After you have practiced him in this way until he will keep to "heel" without struggling to get free, use the check cord in place of the stick, at the same time carrying in your hand a

small switch. Then order him "Heel!" as before. If he attempts to leave his place, give him a slight tap with the switch, crying "Heel!" He will soon find out he has to obey. After a time you may dispense with the check cord, but retain the switch until he will keep to "heel" until given the command, "Hie on!" You will soon realize the benefit of this instruction when you introduce the puppy into the field, as you will not have to look about to see where he is or what he is doing, and run the risk of being driven wild and as hoarse as a raven.

All of the foregoing instructions are of a preliminary character, and are intended for young dogs or puppies, as a preparation for the more arduous duties of the field. Trainers of young dogs differ in opinion in regard to this yard-training. Some think it is best to begin with a young dog, and take him directly into the field, while others think yard or house training is absolutely necessary to a dog's education. Our opinion is, it is best to take a young puppy, and give him thorough yard-training; still, if it is not convenient to do this, we believe they can be successfully trained without it, and will devote the next chapter in giving full instruction for the training of dogs in the field.

## CHAPTER V.

### TRAINING SHEPHERD DOGS—PRACTICAL FIELD WORK.

“Waving his hat, the shepherd in the vale  
Directs his winding dog the cliffs to scale,  
That, barking, busy, 'mid the glittering rocks,  
Hunts, where he points, the intercepted flocks.”

— *Wordsworth.*

The most that can be done in the way of conveying instruction in regard to the training of dogs without practical illustration is to state the results to be attained, together with an outline of the mode by which to reach them. Your home may be toward the setting sun, on the great plains of the West, with the grand old mountains and trackless deserts always before you, or perchance you may live in the more thickly settled portions of the country—no matter where your lines may be cast, you will find in practice the details will necessarily vary very considerably. One will find this mode, another that, to be most efficient, besides which the disposition of the particular animal sought to be controlled will in a considerable degree affect the character of the training to which he is subjected. After all, the knowledge which is to be imparted to shepherd dogs is comprised in understanding a very few terms, and the great idea in their education is the enforcement of a *prompt, unhesitating obedience to every command.* If you have followed our instructions given in yard-training, and have thoroughly instilled into the mind of your pupil the terms we have given, your work in the field will be easy, compared to what it would have been had you waited until your puppy had age, and perhaps learned bad habits, and then taken him, entirely unacquainted with the language, into the field. You will also possess a knowledge of the disposition and temper of your pupil which will be a great

aid to you in perfecting him in the higher branches of his education. Much kindness and gentleness are certainly requisite when training the puppy. There is heedlessness in the young dog which is not readily got rid of until age has given him experience. He must not, however, be too severely corrected, or he may be spoiled for life. If considerable correction is sometimes necessary, it should be followed, at a little distance of time, by some kind usage. The memory of the suffering will remain; but the feeling of attachment to the master will also remain, or rather be increased. The temper of a young dog must be almost as carefully studied as that of a human being. Timidity may be encouraged, and eagerness may be restrained, but affection must be the tie that binds him to his master, and renders him subservient to his will.

In training a shepherd dog, it is necessary to first accustom him to your voice and to teach him by kindness, coupled with firmness, the work you wish him to do, rewarding him with a kind word or a pat on the head when he has done well. Let him know that you appreciate his conduct; the dog very well knows when you are pleased. Talk to him as you would to a child, and you will be surprised to note how well he understands you. If you feel vexed, don't let the dog know it; if he does not do right, go with him, and show him the way it is done; do not be too impatient to have him do the work alone. The shepherd pup is much like a child; he is a great imitator. It is as natural for a well-bred Scotch shepherd dog to work as to eat. The rules for his training are, to be kind, patient and faithful in your instruction. No one should attempt to train a dog who is not possessed of patience and perseverance. Always be careful not to use harsh and severe measures, for if once the will is broken, the dog will ever afterward be timid and afraid to attempt anything for fear of punishment; they seldom outgrow it. Continually whipping and scolding will render them utterly worthless, as it will any kind of dog. Give the most intelligent pup on earth to a coarse, brutal master, and he will turn out a worthless cur. If you are compelled to punish your dog for disobedience, do not call him to you, but go to him, or he will be afraid to come to you when you call him next time, for fear of getting a whipping, and may tuck his tail between his legs and go

home. A dog is greatly tempted to run away when he knows from the angry voice of his master that he is going to be punished. When the dog is chastised, see that he makes friends with you before you let him go; should he run off he may be completely ruined. Some collies are of such a nervous disposition that they can not stand whipping, or even scolding, and the trainer must study the disposition of the dog he is handling, as the most intelligent dog may be spoiled by mismanagement in training. He will in a great measure act as his master does. If the shepherd treats the sheep with gentleness, and does not allow the dog to bite them, he will be a protector of the flock; but should the shepherd be harsh and rough with the sheep, the dog will harrass and worry them. Many men professing to train young dogs display much ignorance in this respect, from which cause many dogs are made totally unfit for work. Never let him follow teams, or any one except those that attend the sheep.

When you have got him trained to "come in" when told, then, and not till then, take him among sheep. You should drive the sheep to one particular point for a week or so, saying "Hie on!" but don't take any notice for a few days whether he drives or not, only go yourself and see that he is following you. When you get him to assist you in driving, you should encourage him all you can, as your chief point is gained. Train the dog to hand signals, because when at a distance, and in windy weather, the dog can see the signals when he can not hear. Use your right hand or left hand as the case requires, whichever way you want him to go. When you are on an endless plain, with a large flock spread out sufficient to allow them to feed, the dog is sometimes so far off that he can not see the hand signals. You can then signal by fluttering a handkerchief to the right or left. A hand or handkerchief held up, he will soon understand to mean "That will do." In time you will teach him the meaning of the word "Steady." If he is very high-spirited, and you can not control him, you should attach about ten yards of check-cord to his collar, and when he fails to be "steady," jerk him, crying "Steady!" until he has learned the meaning of the word. Do not put him to work until he has strength and speed of foot to run easily around or past the flock.



If he is lacking in speed, he will be sure to run straight, instead of taking a wide circuit in order to come in front and turn the sheep. Some dogs can be taught this at seven or eight months old, while others will not acquire speed until they are fully a year old. There is much they can learn by even accompanying you on your rounds with the sheep. The rashness and impetuosity of a young dog must be checked, but not by whipping, for it is an excess of zeal on his part; he is overanxious to work, and thinks he is pleasing you. He should be called back, scolded, and shown by word and manner he has done wrong, and when he has fully learned to obey the command "Steady!" you will have no further trouble with him in this respect, but until he has learned, be patient with him. If you find it convenient to take a small flock on a fenced road or lane, you could make more rapid progress with the training.

→ You will next learn the pup to "speak" to them when you wish them hurried up. This is desirable at railroad crossings or in driving them across a creek. If you have not yard-trained him, you can set him a-barking by getting him excited and giving a "bowwow" yourself in as doggish a manner as you are able, and crying: "Speak!" "Hie on!" "Speak!" When he has thoroughly learned this term it will be an easy matter to teach him to be "quiet," as it is not desirable to have him barking all the time. This can be done by giving the command "Quiet!" and making threatening gestures, until he understands the meaning of the word. You will find the terms "quiet" and "steady" convenient when the dog is crowding the sheep too much. When you set him on, indicate the direction by using your hand, and you will find he will soon see which way to drive them. When you have got him to go back and forth from one side of the flock to the other at the motion of your hand, the next step will be to have him pass up the side of the flock. To teach him to do this you should indicate by a motion of the right hand the direction you wish him to go, at the same time crying: "Up!" "Away up!" You can get him started by throwing a stick, or any convenient article within reach, or you may show him what is desired by walking a little way in that direction yourself, repeating the motion of your hand and crying: "Up!" "Away up!" In a

few days he will go half way up the side of the flock alone and you can gradually urge him forward by crying "Away up!" at the same time throwing your hand out, as you would in directing a man who was beyond the reach of your voice. By degrees he will reach the head of the flock, and may go partly around. While he is there quickly change your position from the right at the rear of the flock to the left. If the dog is not too far off, he will notice you have changed your position and will probably pass entirely around the head of the flock. Quickly give a shrill whistle and cry "Come in!" If he "comes in" promptly to you, pet him for duty well performed, and the next time he will do it with greater alacrity and pleasure. You should also reward him; the rule should be, as many rewards and as few punishments as possible. As this will cause a great run on the provisions, you had better provide yourself with a small tin box of cheese scraps, which you can carry in your pocket. You will then be prepared to reward your pupil on short notice, and be careful not to keep him waiting for his dainty morsel. It requires considerable practice and patience to bring the dog up and to the front of the flock. But it can be done; only do not expect him to learn it all at once. If he fails to understand what you wish him to do, he will most likely look around on his way up for further instructions. You must at once repeat the command "Up!" "Away up!" accompanying the command with a wave of the hand. An experienced collie will frequently perform the feat of running over the backs of a flock of sheep that are bunched together, in order to head them.

After your pupil has learned to pass easily up and around the flock, he may be taught to gather them together, in order to keep them from straying, or to drive them to any desired point. This may be done by crying "Around them!" moving the hand from right to left, or *vice versa*. Sometimes scattered members of the flock may be at a greater distance than the dog seems to be taking in. You will then use the term "back," crying: "Back!" "Away back!" At first you will have to go towards the head of the flock yourself and urge him forward by the term he has already learned, crying "Away up!" until you have him well un-

der way, then continue to cry "Back!" "Away back!" at the same time waving the hand. If the dog is intelligent, it will not take him long to know that "back," "away back," means that he shall go for outlying members of the flock which he failed to take in when ordered "Around them!" The Scotch shepherd uses the term "Far yand," for collecting distant members of the flock, and also to drive off those that may be trespassing from other flocks; at least, this is the case in some parts of Scotland.

The dog should also be taught to stay at a certain place away from you in the rear or front of flock, or at any place you may wish. To do this, if you have not yard-trained him, it will be necessary to tie him a few times. Before leaving him, say "Lie down!" pointing with the hand to the ground. If you give him an article of your clothing to take care of, he has an object to interest him and will be more contented. Some strains of collies take naturally to watching anything belonging to their master. When he is unchained tell him to "stop," or "lie down." If he attempts to follow you, drive him back by pretending to hit him. When you are driving a flock in a field along a fence, or along a fenced road or lane, it is sometimes necessary to make your dog cross the fence when you want him to go ahead of them. If you have thoroughly taught him the trick or term "Over," as I have previously described in yard-training, you can simply cry "Over," and "Up," and he will at once leap over the fence and pass to the head of the flock. If he has not been yard-trained, you should go to the fence with him and cry "Hie over!" If he disregards the words "Hie over," use the words "Hie on," and afterwards "Hie over," waving your hand at the same time. If he fails to understand, you must first get over the fence yourself, calling the dog by name and crying "Hie over!" He will soon jump over the fence and go ahead as desired. If you toss a piece of beef over the fence when you command him to "hie over," he will learn amazingly soon. In driving flocks along fenced roads or by the side of inclosed fields, there are sometimes openings or gaps in the fence, or there may be gates or cross-roads of which the sheep might take advantage to stray. To keep the sheep in the right direction the Scotch shepherd dog is taught to "go by." We will use the term

“Hold them!” and when you wish an opening guarded order him to “stop,” or “lie down.” If the sheep attempt to stray, cry “Hold them!” At first you will have to go and show him what to do.

When you get so far as to want the dog to hold them up in front, you may need an assistant to drive the sheep, or you can go ahead of them at a narrow place in the road when they are crowding forward, and attempt to hold them, continually crying “Hold!” Remember dogs are great imitators. If you do it right yourself, and have patience, he will soon learn to do it as well as you. Later on, when you are in the rear of the flock, you can order him to “Hold front!” at the same time throwing your hand straight out. When he gets to the head of the flock, you will find just swinging your arms, first one way, then the other, will be quite sufficient to keep him running first one way, then another, and when you hold your hand up, he will soon understand it means “That will do.” The term “Hold” will be found quite useful at public crossings where others have the right of way, and is especially useful on the prairies when another flock is crossing the front of your flock at right angles. The flock with lambs, for obvious reasons, always holds the right of way by established usage. A well-trained dog will hold a large flock of sheep, so that they will loom up from a distance like a stone wall. You should also teach the dog to “hold right” or “hold left.” A few lessons will serve to teach him, from your manner, the difference between right and left. When you want the dog, cry “Come in!” and he can then take his place as driver. In ancient times it was said the sheep follow the shepherd, “for they know his voice,” but in modern times the shepherd follows the sheep, at least such is the case in some of the most civilized countries. Still, it is necessary in some instances to leave the dog in the rear to drive, while you go to the head of the flock yourself, and it is best to train the dog to do this, to be ready in case of necessity. To do this, go up along one side of the flock yourself, and leave the dog in the rear. Should he attempt to follow you, drive him back by threatening gestures, at the same time bidding him go “Back!” and when he has again taken his place at the rear of the flock, bid him “Hie on!” “Speak to them!” and by

this means he will be encouraged to stay at the rear of the flock instead of trying to follow you. By practicing this a short time, and going a little farther up the side of the flock each time, you can by degrees get to the head of the flock entirely out of sight of the dog, and he will drive just as well as though you were there yourself. Whenever several sheep take to a fence corner, ditch or dried-up water-course, or have sought refuge behind a stone pile or any other obstruction, and, turning round and facing the dog, refuse to budge, order the dog "Over!" or "Around!" in such a manner that he can go directly in the rear of the sheep, but on the other side of the obstruction ; then give the command "Over!" when he will jump over directly in the rear of the sheep, and they will start at once.

You will next teach him to "fetch" the flock to you, or "fetch" them home. To teach him quickly and well, take him to the pasture with you several times, and repeat the words "Fetch them!" until he learns to associate the words with the work. Then you can simply wave your hand towards them when giving the order, and turn your back for an instant. Do not confuse the dog by saying what you mean in too many different ways. Do not say "Fetch them!" one time, and "Bring them!" another. There is a great deal of inconvenience growing out of the want of uniformity in training-terms, and it is desirable that persons herding in any given section of the country should adopt the same phraseology or training-terms. A new herdsman or shepherd, in giving the dog an order, may use a different term from the one the dog has been accustomed to, and although not understanding what is required of him, he may, in his eagerness to please, run a quarter of a mile before he can be brought in. Although the dog is guilty of no fault, he is often severely whipped for disobeying a command which he failed to understand, the shepherd at the same time cursing the dog for an ill-taught mongrel. By this means the dog is set back in his education, and possibly ruined. Some people think it is absolutely necessary to have an experienced, trained dog in order to train a puppy successfully, but such is not the case. The instructions I have given, if faithfully and perseveringly carried out, will be found sufficient without the aid of a trained dog.



Yet notwithstanding, it can not be denied that the services of an expert dog will, in a great measure, lessen the labor of training. A well-bred, intelligent shepherd pup is most anxious to work, and, if taken to the field with an experienced dog, will follow his movements, and to a great extent do as he does. When your pupil has gained strength and speed, he may be coupled to the trained dog, but in order to do this they must be fully acquainted with each other, and allowed to sleep together. As the male dogs are inclined to be surly with puppies or young dogs, a female is best for this purpose, and should it be the pup's dam, so much the better. A coupler such as is used by sportsmen is convenient for this purpose, and can be procured at any house where sportsmen's supplies are sold. The chain of the coupler should be provided with two good swivels. If the dogs are about the same size, the coupling chain should be short. Should the young dog be smaller than his companion, or the old dog carry his head very high, you can easily lengthen the chain. A short time each day will be sufficient to keep them coupled together, and always keep an eye on them.

Although the collie can not be surpassed as a sheep-dog, he is equally valuable as a careful watcher over herds of cattle. The instructions for training them for this purpose are precisely the same as those I have given for training them for sheep. But should you desire to work them on both cattle and sheep, they should be trained on cattle first, as they will then be more determined. On small farms where but few cattle are kept, let the pup accompany you to the pasture with the cows, and also fetch them up in the evening, and he will soon learn to do it alone. To learn him to put stock in the right stalls, work on two or three at first; take him with you and put them in stalls that are as different in appearance or location as possible. When a collie has been thoroughly trained on cattle, he will work as well in the water as on land. This is sometimes necessary when you wish cattle brought out of lakes and streams. He will swim around to the head of the herd, turn them, and drive them out. The working dog should not be allowed to hunt. A dog that will break away from his work, and give chase to rabbits and squirrels, will be of little or no account, as he will frequently be absent when his services are urgently required, and



you will be compelled to whistle and shout, and perhaps search, for him.

The common expression, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks," has led many to believe that a dog can't be taught anything after he has attained his growth. This is a mistake. A dog can be taught at any age if reasonable time and care are given him. When a pup is taken in hand when young, and taught his first lessons as we have given, he will learn at any age anything new in one-third the time a pup will, as he has learned to understand, and is far more willing. If your dog has thoroughly learned one-half of these lessons by the time he is one year old, he is getting on well. Shepherd dogs are not picked up here and there, of any age, and put to work in a single day. A full course of training occupies at least two years, sometimes longer, according to the smartness and intelligence of the animal. It must not, in this or any breed, be expected that every dog will show like mental qualities, and aptitude to learn. There are stupid dogs, as there are stupid people, whom no human teaching can make much of, but, on the whole, the cause of failure is oftener in the teacher than in the scholar.

You will have no doubt noticed in the foregoing instructions that we are very much opposed to the (to us inhuman) practice of so much severity during the so-called breaking-in of young dogs. We believe ninety per cent. of the whippings inflicted on young dogs is due to the hastiness and impatience of the master. He appears to think the dog understands the command given as well as he does himself, and the dog, failing to execute it, is roughly grasped by his master, who, in his rage, inflicts upon him a severe thrashing; when, in most cases, had the master kept cool and tried to make the dog understand the nature of the command, he would have been cheerfully obeyed. We believe in most cases whipping is entirely unnecessary; but, should it be necessary to punish a dog, which is the case only in willful disobedience, do it calmly, and with a view to making the dog understand you must be obeyed, rather than to give vent to your anger. If you have given him a command with which he is thoroughly acquainted, and he has not obeyed you, you should repeat the command slowly with every

blow given. A few blows given in this way will do more good than all the thrashings given in the ordinary way. The chief thing is to conceal your anger and to retain the confidence of the dog. A man that can not control his temper should never attempt to train a dog; indeed, such a man would in most cases ruin a dog after he was trained. Kindness is better than severity. When he has done wrong, give him a good talking to in a quiet, calm voice, and you will often be surprised at the look of shame with which he turns away, unable to look you in the eye, or in some cases, especially of a tender-hearted, affectionate female, look at you imploringly, and, with whine and action, beg to be forgiven. When he has done well, speak cheerfully to him; let him know that you are pleased with his behavior, and he will exert his utmost in your service. Be gentle with him, and he will learn to look to you for guidance, and you will be the fortunate owner of the most faithful four-footed companion in existence.



## CHAPTER VI.

### COLLIE ANECDOTES.

“His locked, lettered, braw brass collar  
Showed him the gentleman and scholar.”

—Burns.

Mr. James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd, living in his early days among the sheep and their quadruped attendants, and an accurate observer of nature, as well as an exquisite poet, gives some anecdotes of the collie with which the reader will not be displeased. “My dog Sirrah,” says he, in a letter to the editor of *Blackwood’s Edinburgh Magazine*, “was, beyond all comparison, the best dog I ever saw. He had a somewhat surly and unsocial temper, disdain- ing all flattery, and refusing to be caressed ; but his attention to my commands and interest will never again be equaled by any of the canine race. When I first saw him, a drover was leading him with a rope. He was both lean and hungry, and far from being a beautiful animal ; for he was almost black, and had a grim face, striped with dark brown. I thought I perceived a sort of sullen intelli- gence in his countenance, notwithstanding his dejected and forlorn appearance, and I bought him. He was scarcely a year old, and knew so little of herding that he had never turned a sheep in his life ; but, as soon as he discovered that it was his duty to do so, and that it obliged me, I can never forget with what anxiety and eagerness he learned his different evolutions ; and when I once made him understand a direction, he never forgot or mistook it.” On one night, a large flock of lambs that were under the Ettrick Shepherd’s care, frightened by something, scampered away in three different directions across the hills, in spite of all that he could do to keep them together. “Sirrah,” said the shepherd, “they’re a’ awa!” It was too dark for the dog and his master to see each

other at any considerable distance, but Sirrah understood him, and set off after the fugitives. The night passed on, and Hogg and his assistant traversed every neighboring hill in anxious but fruitless search for the lambs ; but he could hear nothing of them nor of the dog, and he was returning to his master with the doleful intelligence that he had lost all his lambs. "On our way home, however," says he, "we discovered a lot of lambs at the bottom of a deep ravine called the Flesh Cleuch, and the indefatigable Sirrah standing in front of them, looking round for some relief, but still true to his charge. We concluded that it was one of the divisions which Sirrah had been unable to manage, until he came to that commanding situation. But what was our astonishment when we discovered that not one lamb of the flock was missing ! How he had got all the divisions collected in the dark, is beyond my comprehension. The charge was left entirely to himself from midnight until the rising sun ; and, if all the shepherds in the forest had been there to have assisted him, they could not have effected it with greater promptitude. All that I can say is, that I never felt so grateful to any creature under the sun as I did to my honest Sirrah that morning."

Mr. Russell says : "I was very much astonished at the remarkable intelligence of a collie that I saw in Scotland. As I was walking along a Highland mountain road, I met a large flock of sheep. They had traveled some twelve miles and were very thirsty. Just below us, down a steep incline, ran a little brook. As soon as the sheep sighted the brook, they ran down pell-mell for a drink. Among the flock was a lame sheep that could not, or dared not, go down the steep bank. While it stood hesitating, the shepherd's dog, a collie, went up to it, pricked up its ears, and after an instant's hesitation went below it, placed his shoulders against the sheep and slowly assisted it down to the brook, then lay down near by and watched it drink with as much apparent satisfaction as a human being could have expressed in words."

A shepherd had driven part of his flock to a neighboring fair, leaving his dog to watch the rest during that day, expecting to rejoin them in the morning. Unfortunately, however, the shepherd forgot both his dog and his sheep, and did not return home

till the morning of the third day. His first inquiry was whether the dog had been seen. The answer was "No." "Then he must be dead," replied the shepherd, with a look of pain, "for I know he was too faithful to desert his charge." He went back to the heath directly. The dog had just enough strength left to crawl to his master's feet, and express his joy at his return, and then he died.

The collie bitch Gyp, by Rutland, out of Lorna Doone, is a rarely intelligent animal. She is three years old, and winner of twenty-seven prizes in England, Ireland and Australia. While in Queensland, her owner wagered \$2,500 that she could, unassisted, drive a flock of sheep a distance of 175 miles, between Charleville and Adavale, over a road familiar to her. The feat was accomplished in good time, the dog taking a flock of 151 sheep over the entire distance, driving them by day and rounding them up at night, without the slightest assistance, and without losing a single sheep. This intelligent collie is now in this country.

It may seem incredible to the casual reader that a dog can become of more value to its owner than is a hired man, but the owner of "Southland Ned" asserts that this wise dog is of better service than two men would be at \$2.50 each per day. The dog does the work once performed by two drovers, in driving to and from Brighton market. The route is six miles from his home and enables the dog to become acquainted with all the cattle during the day's drive. The collie distributes the cattle on reaching home, separating from the herd the bunch that is to be sent on six miles to the slaughter-pens. For several years he has never lost a single head en route. Even at \$1.50 per day for a man's services, the dog has saved his master no less than \$3,600 during his useful career. This fact is but one of thousands that might be cited.

The following incident illustrates the memory of the dog. A shepherd was employed in bringing up some mountain sheep from Westmoreland, and took with him a young sheep-dog who had never made the journey before. From his assistant being ignorant of the ground, he experienced great difficulty in having the flock stopped at the various roads and lanes he passed in their way to the neighborhood of London. In the next year the same shepherd, accompanied by the same dog, brought up another flock for the



gentleman who had had the former one. On being questioned how he had got on, he said much better than the year before, as his dog now knew the road, and had kept the sheep from going up any of the lanes or turnings that had given him so much trouble on his former journey. The distance could not have been less than four hundred miles.\*

“Is thy servant a dog?” said Hazael when the prophet foretold his crimes. Now and then the slandered dog finds himself where he could protest quite as strongly against being called a man. For example: A farmer, having sold a flock of sheep to a dealer, lent him his dog to drive them home, a distance of thirty miles, desiring him to give the dog a meal at his journey’s end, and tell it to go home. The drover found the dog so useful that he resolved to keep it, and, instead of sending it back, locked it up. The collie grew sulky and at last effected its escape. Evidently deeming the drover had no more right to detain the sheep than he had to detain itself, the honest creature went into the field, collected all the sheep that had belonged to his master, and, to that person’s intense astonishment, drove the whole flock home again. What the culprit said for himself, or what passed between the two men when the whole story came out, we are not informed; but if ever there was a case of human being rebuked in his morals by a brute, this is one.

We could quote innumerable instances in which the collie has excelled in handling sheep and cattle, but we think enough has been said on this subject and we will proceed to give a few of the many instances in which he has been found useful in other ways.

Dorsey is a fine Scotch collie, and has the distinction of being the only dog in the world regularly employed as a letter-carrier. Dorsey has for more than three years carried the mail between Calico, San Bernardino County, and Bismarck, a mining-camp between three and four miles away, over almost impassable mountains. Calico is a stage-station and has a post-office. Without the aid of the dog many a miner would have a hard time getting his mail, as the country is very rough and steep in places, and most of the year the weather is very warm. Dorsey belongs to

---

\*Jesse’s Gleanings, Vol. I, p. 93.

the postmaster at Calico, and in his youth was not regarded as anything more than a common puppy. The way the dog became a mail-carrier was as follows: One day the postmaster wanted to send word to his brother at Bismarck, but did not want to make the trip. It occurred to him to try the dog. He wrote a letter and tied it round the dog's neck, pointing his nose toward Bismarck, and then told him to go. He trotted off a short distance and then turned about to see what else was wanted. Some of the small boys showered stones at him and he ran on to Bismarck. Next day he returned with an answer tied to his neck, and he showed that he had been well treated. The experiment was repeated, each time with success and additional dignity on the part of the dog. As soon as it became known that Dorsey could be depended upon, requests were constantly made by the miners to send their mail by him. The loads soon increased and it became evident that they could not tie on all the letters. The miners then ordered a fine little mail-bag and fitted it to the dog's shoulders. It is fastened around his chest by one strap, and around his body, back of the fore legs, by another. He has never missed a trip or lost a letter. Now, when the stage comes in, he gets up, stretches himself, walks to the post-office, waits to have the mail strapped on him, and starts off as soon as he is told all is ready. He will go a long way around to avoid meeting a stranger, seeming to realize the importance of his mission.

I. K. Felch says: "One of my favorite collies could tell the difference between two newspapers, folded exactly alike and flung on my lawn. When sent 'for the paper,' he would select the one belonging to me and leave the other. This dog served as messenger between my family and my father's when my father lay ill. We would send him to ascertain if assistance was needed. If told that one of us was required, he would return and bark; if told that nothing was wanted just then, he would come home and lie down quietly. At one time he was accustomed to go to the news-room for my daily paper. The clerks enjoyed playing pranks on him, which he resented. He would enter the store with dignity and place his forepaws on the counter. If the paper was given him, he would trot off contentedly, but if the boys pretended not to see

him he would bark once or twice, and then, if still ignored, would push from the counter whatever chanced to be loose. The boys soon learned to wait upon this customer as promptly as though he could talk."

Professor Sedgwick was staying in Cumberland with a college friend of his, whose father farmed his own estate. His friend said to him one day: "You are so fond of dogs, you ought to ask my father to tell you how his life was saved by his favorite shepherd dog." The Professor did so, and heard the following story: "When I was a young man my father said to me: 'There is a heavy snow-storm coming on. Ride up the mountain and see that the flock of sheep we have lately bought is properly folded.' So off I set, mounted on a frisky colt, and accompanied by my favorite collie. My errand over, I was returning home, when my horse not only threw me off, but kicked me afterwards, so that my leg was frightfully broken. The night coming on, the snow falling heavily, nothing could be more perilous than my position, as I could not move. In despair I dipped my glove in my blood and gave it to my collie, saying, 'Take this right home to my father, and bring me help.' Appearing to understand every word, he seized the glove and tore home. The servants tried to catch him in vain—he forced his way into the parlor and dropped the glove on my father's lap, whining piteously. My father knew the glove and saw that some accident had occurred; he gathered the men on the farm, and, guided by the dog, they came to my rescue."

The following interesting account of Mr. Harris's collie, Boz, will show they can also be learned tricks: Mr. S. G. Harris, a horse-dealer of Vincennes, Ind., is the owner of a wonderful dog. It is a Scotch collie and seems possessed of almost human intelligence. Mr. Harris exhibited him to Mr. Charles Schwartz and a party of friends in Mr. Schwartz's private office in the Board of Trade building. His performances—they seemed to show too much intelligence to be called tricks—amazed everybody. Bank bills and coins of various denominations were placed on the floor and the dog was requested to take his choice. He immediately picked up a ten-dollar bill, which was the largest in sight. "Which piece would you give me, Boz?" asked Mr. Harris. Boz

selected a nickel and dropped it into Mr. Harris's hand. Mr. S. A. Kent came in while the dog was performing, and said: "Boz, I want you to bring me five dollars and a half." Boz picked up a five-dollar bill and a fifty-cent piece, gave Mr. Kent an I'm-onto-you expression, and trotted over to Mr. Harris with the money. "Find Mr. Richardson," was the next order. Boz trotted up to that gentleman, looked up into his face and wagged his tail. "Pick his pocket," said Mr. Harris. Boz picked Mr. Richardson's handkerchief out of his coat-pocket and trotted off with it. "I want fifteen dollars," said Mr. Kent. Boz picked up a ten-dollar and a five-dollar bill. "Bring me the rest of it." Boz barked and growled. His next performances were to bring a hat from the window and a piece of paper from the waste-basket in the corner, and he also gave an imitation of the way the clown-dog prayed in the circus which Boz and his master visited last summer. At Mr. Harris's request that he pray like a good dog, he got up in a chair, put his paws up on the back, and, after putting his head down between his paws, reverently closed his eyes. "Get down," said Mr. Harris. Boz did not stir. Mr. Harris tipped the chair over, but Boz took up his position again as soon as the chair was righted. "Amen," said Mr. Harris, and Boz jumped down and wagged his tail. Boz showed them how the bad boy winked at the girls in church, played bartender by giving Mr. Harris back his correct change after the fictitious purchase of two drinks, and did other equally wonderful tricks. Mr. Schwartz wrote out his check for \$6,000, which he gave to Mr. Harris for the dog, and Mr. Schwartz took the dog home with him. Mr. Harris could not sleep, however, and he came down to Mr. Schwartz's office bright and early next morning and offered Mr. Schwartz \$500 if he would trade back. Mr. Schwartz refused the offer, but finally took pity on Mr. Harris and sent up to the house for the dog. Mr. Harris was proudly exhibiting him in the Grand Pacific Hotel that afternoon, and declared that he would never part with him again. The dog is five years old and has been Mr. Harris's constant companion ever since it was three months old. "Boz" was afterwards taken to England, where Mr. Harris had the honor of exhibiting his wonderful performances before the Prince of Wales.

Mr. Colin Campbell, of Stonefield, had a collie named Ettrick, that was the finest all-round retriever I have ever seen, and no sum would have bought him. The universal antipathy of the collie to cats was never more fully demonstrated than at a Scotch kirk in the Highlands. The congregation, mostly shepherds, always brought their dogs with them. On one occasion, in the midst of the exhortation, a cat marched into the kirk and was seen by one dog, who set up a howl. Out went the cat, followed by about fifteen grand collies, who ran into and killed her in fine style in the church-yard. An edict from the pulpit excluded dogs after that.

## CHAPTER VII.

### A PLEA FOR THE DOG.

“—— In life the firmest friend,  
The first to welcome, foremost to defend,  
Whose honest heart is still his master's own,  
Who labors, fights, lives, breathes for him alone.”—*Byron*.

Proud (and justly so) is the fortunate possessor of a good dog. Many a life has been saved and many an accident averted by the constant watchfulness of man's best friend, the dog. Always on the alert and ready for a frolic; yet at the approach of danger as fearless as a lion in the discharge of his duty. To fully appreciate the many excellent qualities and the educated instinct of the thoroughbred dog is a study of no small proportions. Hear the joyous bark which greets his master in the morning, note the gladness of manner and the delicate hinting for the accustomed caress—he gets it, too.

His indoor life yields to others as much joy and satisfaction as his outdoor life. To take away from many homes the canine pets would be to deprive them of one of the principal sources and one of the essential factors of their happiness, content, security and congenial companionship. From the large St. Bernard down to the parlor pug, the dog grows up in most well-regulated households a member almost as indispensable as the children for whose special rearing and training these homes are provided. For the best of all reasons this is so, as the dog is one of man's best friends and servants; we may safely say the best. Affectionate, patient, confiding, true to its trust, never, like so many other servants, whining with even a dog's whine, because too many burdens are put upon them, the dog performs its duty even more manfully than they. And this duty is manifold; often it consists in guarding persons and property from the depredations of men as well as of the other animals; sometimes it consists in protecting children



in the absence of other guardians; sometimes in rescuing the members of the family from danger and the effects of accident; sometimes in assisting the dog's master to earn a livelihood; and generally in acting in the twofold capacity of companion and playmate of the household, and of a willing drudge and servant in a hundred useful ways.

The only living being which deigned to notice the beggar as he lay at the rich man's gate was the dog. The priest, the Levite, and even the Samaritan, passed by. The pages of history, from that day to this, record his fidelity as exceeding even that of his master, and are unmarred by a single act of treachery. The St. Bernards of the Alps, the staghounds of Russia, and the collies of Scotland, save the lives of travelers, protect families from famished wolves, and herd the sheep of the highlands. Shepherds who have large flocks find the dog a necessity in assisting them to guard, drive, corral and care for them. At times the rivers overflow and vast tracts of the country are inundated, driving myriads of rats, weasels and other vermin inland, which become sources of constant annoyance and loss to all, especially to farmers. We are then glad to call in the assistance of dogs. A few years ago, when there was a general overflow from the Ohio to the Missouri, these vermin swarmed throughout the country; they threw out their skirmishers in every nook and corner of the land with such rapidity that they soon became a vast army preying upon almost everything produced by the farmer. He razed old buildings, tore up all harbors, shot, trapped and poisoned, but they would not go. When they could not find harbors, they burrowed for their homes in the open ground, in the garden, in the meadow, anywhere—rats and weasels everywhere. Then we called in the aid of the terrier, and these vermin began to see that there was a "force in nature" on which they never reckoned. Soon after the dog's advent "sweet peace" reigned once more from the depredations of these pests. Permit me, as one somewhat observant of the habits and nature of wild animals, to predict that if you exterminate the dogs of the country, it will in a few years be overrun with vermin, and your flocks less secure than now. Even the friendless cur, which roams promiscuously about, performs an office other than keeping down the supply of mutton.

Some races of dogs are extremely valuable, noble and intelligent, only requiring education to advance them to a place of necessity among those who are compelled to bear the heat and burden of natural life. One thing you must admit in spite of all prejudice, that we'll never find a better friend than the old watchdog. • He seems to never sleep; his penetrating eyes seem to note every spot of the premises; his ears seem to take in every sound, and at night, when all should be wrapped in the peace and stillness of sleep—save the cricket, whose cheerful chirping appoints the restful dreams to calm the mind and fit you for the morrow's fight for life—he stands guard, and prevents by timely warning your loss of property. His nerves seem to never tire, until, by a long life of constant, generous and unselfish devotion, he lies down on your hearth to die, amid the heart-pangs of the family; even then, should a disturbance arise in his last death-throes, he will make the attempt to obey the summons and give his last sad gasp in your service. It is truly said of the dog that he possesses

“Many a good  
 And useful quality, and virtue, too;  
 Attachment never to be weaned or changed  
 By any change of fortune; proof alike  
 Against unkindness, absence and neglect;  
 Fidelity, that neither bribe nor threat  
 Can move or warp; and gratitude, for small  
 And trivial favors, lasting as the life,  
 And glistening even in the dying eye.”

Coxie says: “Man is a reasoning animal, because he can reason from cause to effect, and can trace effects to causes; because he possesses the passions of love, hope, fear, etc.; and especially because he possesses that most important faculty of memory. But if this be the case, can any one deny to inferior animals, whom we choose to designate by the name of brutes, many, or all, of the above qualities or passions, or of the faculty or power of memory? The dog, our familiar associate, will sufficiently answer such denial. Acute and sensible, alive to friendship and affection, he appears on many occasions to reason from causes to their effects, and, from a dread of punishment, he seems equally to retrace his ideas back to the causes that led to it on former occasions, and wisely therefore he avoids their repetition. The faculty or power of rea-

soning seems to result from a combination of ideas. The man who is persuaded of the existence of a Supreme Being is led by a train of reasoning to view him in the wonders of creation; and, by a train not much dissimilar, the dog is kept in awe of that punishment which memory informs him was inflicted for such or such a fault, and which reflection or association of ideas leads him to anticipate a renewal of, on a repetition of the same. How evidently, too, does he express the emotions or passions of joy or sorrow, of hope, fear, anger, shame, etc., according to the varied situation in which he may be placed; can man describe them by actions more expressive? Now, if these propositions are correct, must they not confirm what is above sustained, that animals do possess, in varied degrees, like man, those mental affections on which the latter sets so high an estimate, and that memory forms the basis of such powers, by which, through appropriate organs, their existence is developed?"

We here quote the beautiful account of Sir Walter Scott and his dogs, as described by Henry Hallam:

"But looking toward the grassy mound  
Where calm the Douglass chieftains lie,  
Who, living, quiet never found,  
I straightway learnt a lesson high;  
For there an old man sat serene,  
And well I knew that thoughtful mien  
Of him whose early lyre had thrown  
O'er mouldering walls the magic of its tone.

"It was a comfort, too, to see  
Those dogs that from him ne'er would rove,  
And always eyed him reverently,  
With glances of depending love.  
They know not of the eminence  
Which marks him to my reasoning sense;  
They know but that he is a man,  
And still to them is kind, and glads them all he can.

"And hence their quiet looks confiding;  
Hence grateful instincts, seated deep,  
By whose strong bond, were ill betiding,  
They'd lose their own, his life to keep.  
What joy to watch in lower creature  
Such dawning of a moral nature,  
And how (the rule all things obey)  
They look to a higher mind to be their law and stay!"

Those who sneer at what they are pleased to term a rage for keeping dogs, should remember the great benefit so many families derive by man's just affection for these household pets. He is a faithful servant and loving companion, and worthy of the appreciative treatment of his master, and he should receive every attention of which man is capable. "The dog, par excellence," says Dr. E. J. Lewis, "may be considered the type of all that is noble and great; for, certainly, incorruptible fidelity, disinterested attachment, and a never-ceasing desire to be useful to man, are attributes sufficiently high in their moral bearing to entitle the possessor to this exalted position from among all other animals. From the remotest ages of the world down to the present time, we find the dog the intimate associate of man, the protector of his habitation, the guardian of his flocks. No neglect, no ill-treatment, can drive him from our doors.

"Unkindness may do much;  
And his unkindness may defeat my life,  
But never taint my love.'

"The dog alone bears every oppression, forgives every blow and obeys every command." It is the dog who is the companion of childhood, the sentinel who never sleeps, who sees that the flocks and herds are in their places, that brings home the cows when, from a hard day's work, we are too tired to bring them ourselves.

"I am constant as the northern star,  
Of whose true fix'd and resting quality  
There is no fellow in the firmament,"

Was the language Shakespeare put into the mouth of Desdemona when she protested her fidelity to Othello. It is the language that every master might unhesitatingly accept as the maxim of the only domesticated animal that, if left to itself, would not sooner relapse into its original state of freedom and independence than forsake the hearthstone that gives it kindly shelter and ample food.

There is much we may learn from the society of dogs, if we observe their characters with close, sympathetic insight. One learns at least simplicity, sincerity, and the insufferableness of

egotism, for, however playful and clever a dog is, he is never an egotist, and even if he shows off his little tricks to please his master, it is because he takes delight in doing what he has been taught to do, never because he thinks himself the perfection of creation and wants everybody to admire him. We do not deny that dogs are at times guilty of affectation, if they can by that means attract pity or get themselves petted. A dog will limp long after he is really quite sound of limb, if there is any one in sight to pity or pet him; but even this is not egotism; indeed, it is half delight in the kindness shown him, and half humor, as he will show his sense of fun if he perceives that he is found out and kindly laughed at for his affectation. Never was there a dog whose ruses of this kind went deeper than the wish to attract affectionate notice; whereas the loyalty of the dog is the deepest instinct in him. What was it Cowper said of his water-spaniel "Beau," after he had watched "Beau" capturing and bringing to his master's feet the water-lily which the poet had in vain endeavored to hook with his stick?

"But chief myself I will enjoin  
Awake at duty's call,  
And show a love as prompt as thine,  
To Him who gives me all."

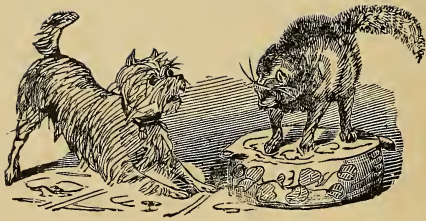
It is said of Sir Walter Scott, when his dog "Camp" died, that he declined to go out to dinner on the ground that he had just lost a dear friend. It is when the dog gets old and dim-sighted, and follows its master and mistress about like their shadow, that we first begin to feel how close is the relation between the dog and the man.

Volumes might be written, if desirable, relating all the extraordinary stories of which dogs are the heroes. Every day, in ordinary life, we see something of this kind, and which, although of so frequent occurrence, is none the less curious. Is it necessary to recall to memory the dog of Ulysses, the model of fidelity; the dog of Montargis, the vanquisher of crime; of Munito, the brilliant player at dominoes? Must we mention the Newfoundland dog and the dog of Mount St. Bernard, both of them preservers of human life? Is it necessary to speak of intelligent dogs going for provis-

ions for their master, and assisting him in his duties with ability ; of the shoeblack's dog, trained to plant his muddy paws on the best polished boots, so as to bring more business to his master, the man of the brush? We should never come to an end if we attempted to describe all the exploits of this valuable companion of man.

As to people who positively hate dogs may a merciful Providence keep them far away from me ! If mankind is the noblest of God's works, dogs undoubtedly rank next, and he must be a queer Christian, to say the least of it, who hates or despises an animal whom He has taken pains to bring to such perfection. Indeed, it is my firm belief, that the human creature who really *hates* dogs, must have something radically wrong with his cerebral convolutions. Be just to the good dog, for he is, as you know, a protection to the family and property of his master. There is no detective so keen, or watchman so faithful, as he.





## CHAPTER VIII.

### SUGGESTIONS TO STOCKMEN.

"His flock he gathers and he guides  
To open downs and mountain-sides."—*Scott.*

Over the principal part of the great Northwest the wolf problem is a serious one, and how to battle with them is one of the vexing questions. Some prominent flockmasters are using hounds to good advantage in hunting wolves and coyotes. If the cattle and sheep men of the Northwest would give these noble dogs a trial, I believe they would find in them the solution of the wolf question. The Siberian wolfhound (sometimes called the Russian bloodhound) is the natural enemy of the wolf, and they have terrible encounters with the formidable black wolf in their native land. This dog, in connection with the Scotch staghound (which I have fully described on preceding pages), can be used for hunting wolves or for the protection of a single flock, by a method we will describe later on. Of course, these formidable dogs should be accustomed to the sheep when they are quite young. A Minnesota sheep-breeder says: "I have three fine wolfhounds. I tied one of them in the yard with the sheep; if anything scares the sheep, they ring the bells; the hound in the yard raises the alarm; the other two are soon on the track of the dog or wolf, and soon have them outside of the lines." Mr. B. Fay, writing in regard to wolves killing sheep, says: "About ten years ago they used to kill a good many for me; but I got some wolfhounds, and since then I have not been troubled, day or night."

A Nebraska sheep-breeder says: "I am often amused at the howling of people in the Eastern States about dogs killing sheep. Very different with me; I could not breed sheep without dogs. I

came from Ohio to this State seven years ago, with eight carloads of stock, etc., with me, intending to keep right on in my old business—sheep-breeding; but after a year or so found out something must be done, as the wolves were making sad havoc with my lambs and sometimes the older ones, but the young sixty-pound lambs they preferred. I talked with neighbors about what to do. They advised me to get dogs. I had a shepherd dog which I brought with me, but the coyotes teeth were too long and sharp for him. Not being posted in dogs, it took me three years trying and posting up on the dog business before getting the right kind, but with years of trying and quite an expenditure of money have at last succeeded. I have the Siberian wolfhound and also the Scotch staghound, to take in the wolf if he comes within sight. My buildings are from ten to twenty rods from the house, and the sheep come up from the different fields every night and lie around the building, and the wolves often come howling round at night, but at the least noise out go the dogs and the coyotes scamper for dear life, yet the dogs often take them in. No strange dog, or anything else, can come into this section without my dogs knowing it. Am not in the least afraid of thieves coming in the house or stealing horses, etc. One good dog will keep away everything, but I keep the fast ones, as I like to take them in.”

Recently there has been considerable discussion in the agricultural papers in regard to sheep-bells as a protection against dogs. That there is a large and growing class of breeders, particularly in the East, who place great weight on the protective power of sheep-bells can not be denied. They show by their constant use of these little “alarmers” their faith in the idea that they actually drive away dogs; and if this is the case, why would they not prove as efficacious against wolves and coyotes? The *American Sheep-breeder* says: “Your sheep will be safe from annoying visits from wolves, coyotes, dogs, etc., with a few sheep-bells strapped around their necks.”

Mr. J. Fullerton, of Minnesota, a great believer in the efficacy of sheep-bells, says: “In seventeen years I have lost one pet lamb; it had no bell. I have always been on the frontier and hunt wolves for the bounty, but they never touch my sheep. I have a bell on

every fifth sheep; cheap insurance against dogs and wolves. watched a wolf trying to get at them, and the way they rang those bells looked as if they fully appreciated them, and every time they rang, off went his wolfship. Another time a man told me a wolf was rounding 'em up, and I'd soon have lots of mutton. I did not worry a bit; I knew they were safe as in a barn. He never hurt one."

A Montana breeder states: "Coyotes are plenty and wolves by no means scarce, but I've yet to lose my first sheep by them. I have herded sheep off and on for three years, and owned a bunch for two years (three next summer). My experience has been that a flock that is plentifully supplied with *good sounding bells*, is practically exempt from the ravages of coyotes or wolves. I have left my band a mile out on the range and gone to the ranch for dinner, and on going out to them again I have seen one and sometimes two coyotes off on a hill watching them, and remained back to see what they would do. As soon as the sheep see them they bunch, and the jingling of the bells is too much for Mr. Coyote, and he 'bunches' himself off the other way."

An Illinois shepherd says: "In regard to bells as a protective power to sheep, can say I rely upon my bells three-quarters of a mile, notifying me of any disturbance to my flock. I have listened to the jingle of sheep-bells for eight years, and can easily tell when my sheep are being disturbed by dogs. Two-thirds of the bells in use are too small. I regard bells a necessity, and can't do without them."

A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* writes: "My experience for thirty years proves the protective power of bells on sheep. I have kept sheep all that time a mile from home, beside a road constantly traveled by dogs, and have never lost a sheep by them, while there is not a flock in the vicinity which has not been raided. When I hear of a case I have taken pains to ascertain if the sheep had bells on, which has not been the fact in a single instance."

We firmly believe that the ravages of dogs, wolves and coyotes would be greatly lessened if shepherds would more generally make use of bells on their sheep. Fifty bells, costing not over eight dollars with straps and buckles complete, are enough for a hundred

sheep, and about two dollars a year will keep the bells good—in case you get the cow-bell pattern, which are cast on a staple through which the strap passes, and not those cast with a shank, which passes through the strap, leaving a small part of the strap entire. The wear coming all the time on one place, the corners of the shank and wire soon cut the strap off. This kind are hardly worth the trouble of putting on.

The *American Sheep-breeder* says: “If a few dry cows or heifers are kept in the field with sheep, the dogs will seldom molest them. We have found sheep in the morning huddling so close around and under a friendly old cow that she could not get away from them; she had saved their lives.” Most people in the country have probably noticed the actions of cattle when a wolf howls or a strange dog enters the pasture. They gather together, and, with heads erect, immediately chase and drive out the intruder. We know from experience that cattle are a sure protection to grown sheep, but think the lambs would be lost where there was much underbrush, especially if there were wolf whelps in the vicinity, as the male wolf at this time has to forage for the whole family, and is very cunning, and particularly destructive to lambs and pigs. Should he discover a sow in the woods with pigs, and find her too much to be managed by himself alone—for sows are very courageous and dangerous in defense of their young—he hastens to his mate and acquaints her with his discovery. Then both sally forth, and, while one rallies the sow with threatening movements in front, the other darts in behind and snatches a pig and away. This is repeated till each is supplied with one or more pigs, as they may want.

It might be well for the flockmaster on the range to keep a few Angora goats in his flock with bells on, to turn the flock homeward toward evening. The Angora always wishes to spend the night in its corral, and when dogs or coyotes assail them they make a bee-line for the corral, the buck covering the rear and turning often to beat back the enemy. Goats are more intelligent than sheep, and can often tell when a storm is coming some hours previous, and will often seek shelter. In case of a sudden storm, a flock of sheep alone would be driven before it, but goats will face the storm, if

necessary, in order to reach the corral, and the sheep, when accustomed to the goats, will follow them, especially if they have bells on.

In regard to dogs for herding sheep, we would say that a farmer who attempts to keep sheep, and has no shepherd dog, is in about as bad a situation as the mariner who ventures out to sea without a compass. It is not a difficult matter to procure a likely puppy, as there are always plenty of thoroughbred ones in the market, the property of well-known and reliable breeders, and it is not as difficult to secure a good one as formerly. In buying a puppy or colt it is a fatal mistake to think that a very low price is cheap in the end. Purchasers of dogs and horses are greatly tempted to fall into this error. If you purchase a puppy at random, you may not find out for many months that you have been wasting your time in trying to train and educate a dog which at best will be second-class in every respect. Of course, under peculiar circumstances a fine puppy may be obtained at a low figure, but, as a rule, the lower the price the greater the lottery. Still, there are exceptions to every rule, and it frequently happens that a high-priced dog is practically worthless as a working dog, their ancestors being bred for bench show only for several generations. There are instances in which puppies from these bench-show strains have failed to make good workers after careful training by experienced shepherds; but get a pup from a good working strain, and it only needs patience and perseverance to make a good dog of him, as he has the inherited instinct of a worker.

As regards the much argued question of color, we would say that color has nothing to do with the working qualities of the dog. There is a great deal of truth in the old adage, "A good dog is never of a bad color." Of the various breeds of shepherd dogs we are prejudiced in favor of the collie, nor do we think it altogether prejudice, as they are more extensively used than any other breed of shepherd dogs, not only in Scotland, where they originated, but also in England and Australia, and of late years in this country and Canada. In Texas and Mexico, they have a way of training dogs with sheep. The pups, when first whelped, or before their eyes are open, are taken from the dam, and put to a sucking



ewe, already deprived of her own lamb. For several days the ewe is confined with the pups in the shepherd's hut, and either from force, or an instinctive desire to be relieved of the contents of the udder, she soon allows the little strangers to suck, and, in the course of a few days more, becomes quite reconciled to the change, and exhibits a great degree of affection for her foster children, who, knowing no other parentage, become thus early engrafted into the general community, and return their early kindness by every mark of affection and fidelity hereafter; never being willing for a moment to quit their society, but remain with them night and day, expressing a peculiar attachment to this particular flock, and seeming able to distinguish each member of it from all other intruders. He will also bring them home in the evening if you feed him regularly at the hour you wish the flock home.

The South American shepherd's dog becomes accustomed, when a puppy, to its future companions. Taken when very young from its mother, it is held three or four times a day to a ewe. A nest of wool is made for it in the sheep-pen and no dog or children allowed to come near. The puppy is castrated generally, so it loses, when growing up, any feeling in common with the rest of its kind; thus the flock and dog grow up together and a permanent friendship is established. The working shepherd dog should not be castrated, or the female splayed, as they become fat and indolent. If pups from some of the large and fierce breeds, such as Siberian wolfhound or staghound, are raised with the sheep in the way I have described, no harm can come to the flock from wolves or worthless dogs. Most of our breeds of working shepherd dogs do not have strong enough jaws to combat successfully with the ferocious wolf, and if we engraft a greyhound jaw on them their bite would prove a calamity to the sheep. A greyhound jaw was meant for killing.

In conclusion we will say a few words on the subject of sheep worrying or killing. This evil is often caused by farmers and shepherds allowing the dead lambs and sheep to remain unburied, also in butchering sheep in the presence of the dog, who is often thrown a piece of the carcass, or is allowed to eat the refuse. From this he soon gets a taste for raw meat, and, if there does not hap-

pen to be a dead sheep, he will soon kill one to satisfy his craving. This is how our faithful companions learn to destroy the innocent creatures they are expected to defend. There was a great deal of sheep-worrying in Scotland thirty or forty years ago, but of late years shepherds and farmers bury their dead lambs and sheep. On the Australian range, it is the shepherd's duty to skin all the sheep that die, and burn the carcass, and they are expected to produce the pelts at headquarters. Various devices have been resorted to in order to correct this evil habit in dogs, but with little success, and I think an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure.

